DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XX, No. 1 Section 1 January 2, 1926.

REPRESENTATIVE DICKINSON'S BILL — Upon his return to Washington, December 31, Representative Dickinson said he would introduce a bill representing the views of the farmers of Iowa, in favor of creating a Federal farm commission to handle surplus crops. (Press, Jan. 2.)

NEBRASKA FARM MEETING CALLED — A Lincoln, Neb., dispatch to the press to-day states that Governor McMullen January 1 announced that he planned to call a farm conference in connection with the organized agriculture week at Lincoln January 5 to 8 to consider the farm relief program for Nebraska. The conference is to be similar to the one recently held at Des Moines, "with the exception that the Nebraska agricultural situation is not nearly so serious," the Governor asserted.

AGRICULTURAL RELIEF PROGRAM — The New York Times, in an editorial to-day, says: "President Coolidge is anxious to do what the farmers want. But do they know what they want? Are they going to be able to get together as respects a legislative program for their special benefit?...Their embarrassment and divisions will not be lessened by the telegram which President Coolidge sent the other day to the Iowa farmers in convention assembled. In it he declared that it was a mistake to say that he was against any plan for Government aid in marketing abroad the surplus of farm products. But he insisted that such a plan must be economically sound. Moreover, he stipulated that it must not involve price-fixing. Nor must it imply that the Government was directly and actively to engage in selling cotton, wheat, corn, and so forth, whether at home or abroad. Meet these conditions, said the President in effect, and I am with you. But the farmers must know, and Mr. Coolidge himself can not be entirely ignorant, that these demands are impossible of fulfillment. The President's modest request is very like inviting the farmers to square the circle or to balance the Washington Monument on the tips of their noses. Without price-fixing, and without Government buying and selling, the whole scheme of disposing of our agricultural surplus abroad can come to little or nothing....."

BRITISH RUBBER POLICY — A London dispatch to-day states that steps designed to take the "rub"out of Great Britain's rubber monopoly have been proposed in governmental circles. Confidence is expressed that, by working along lines of conciliation and compromise, a solution could soon be reached which would be satisfactory alike to the British Government, the Far Eastern rubber producers and the American consumers.

TABER PREDICTS PROSPERITY — Asserting that the New Year offers more of promise to the farmer than any year since 1920, L.J.Taber, master of the National Grange, declared the "agricultural pulse of the Nation will be just a little steadier and just a little stronger during the coming year." The farm leader's prophesy was made at the dedication of a grange hall at Alton, near Columbus, Ohio, January 1.

Section 2

Agriculture as a Business

Thomas Cooper, Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is the author of an article entitled "One Great Reason for Farming" in The Country Gentleman for January. In this Mr. Cooper says: "....To-day his (the farmer) chief struggle is the continued effort to bring these ideal conditions to fruition. The commercialism of agriculture now makes necessary information and abilities on the part of the farmer that were not required of our pioneer ancestors. The farmer of to-day is doing business in a world that has developed systems of transportation which have eliminated the time factor in distance until the American farmer truly competes with the world not only for his own home market, but for markets abroad. The farmer must be alert to every shift of a market that is now Nation-wide and, in many aspects, world-wide. The turns in production, the changing picture of movements and storage of products and the alternatives which sway consumption must all constantly be taken into account. This is not an academic concept--it is a practical one. Either the farmer keeps his business adjusted to the changing situations or he is a financial loser....I look forward to the development of public and private policies that give to agriculture somewhat more favorable consideration than has existed in the past, for agriculture is one of our basic industries. It represents the activity of a very large number of indivual families who contribute more than agricultural production to the Nation's welfare....I do not believe it will be a hard problem to improve economic thinking on the farm. Many farmers, whether they consciously realize it or not, are already practical economists, trained in the school of experience, and fully capable of guiding their course wisely when in possession of the facts of business conditions which bear on their economic prospects. And such farmers may acquire a still wider viewpoint if the business happenings of the world are brought to them promptly by the printed page, extension teaching, radio and news service in general."

Corn Belt Conditions

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for December 31 says: "An Iowa banker writes that farmers in his locality are agitating the formation of a pool to market corn at a price equal to $1.15 in Chicago. The plan is a big gamble, with some chances in favor of the farmers but still more against them. This is not merely a local matter because the idea of forming pools to hold corn for an arbitrary price is spreading over the corn belt. That region may be said to be in a state of flux and plans are being put forth for the solution of the so-called 'farmers' problem.' Cooperative marketing, credits, Government export corporations, price fixing and Government sbusidies have all been advocated as panaceas....In a free market, corn, like everything else, should sell for what it is worth, measured by the supply and the demand. The 1924 crop, together with the farm carryover and visible, made a total supply of 2,421,700,000 bushels compared with the average of the preceding five years of 3,255,000,000. In December the price went to $1.33 1/4 at Chicago and in February to $1.37 7/8. This proved to be more than corn was worth and by May it was ruling under $1.18 3/4. There is no crop failure this year to justify unusual prices, nor is supply so large as to call for a low level. Crop, visible supply and farm carryover as of November 1 amounted to 2,963,300,000 bushels. About 80 per cent of the crop is consumed on the farms, and this year the corn belt has fewer hogs, while there seems but little change in the number of sheep and cattle on feed. Demand does not increase. Practically all the crop is consumed in this country. What could be done by a well organized holding movement is matter of conjecture. The anthracite miners fancied they had a monopoly of power over the consumer and are now facing a crushing defeat."

Export Corporation

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for December 31 says: "If a group of Iowa farmers and farm sympathizers were to have their way, agricultural producers, or at the very least those farmers who devote their efforts to the leading crops of the country, would be provided with a system wherein they would work with absolute assurance of a 'fair profit' at all times....Just let a Government corporation be formed which will at all times fix the price to be charged for each and every commodity at a figure that will assure a fair profit. Could anything be simpler than that? What if the consumer simply declines to pay the prices thus fixed? That need not trouble us very much. We can then take off the market sufficient of the quantities of the surplus to make such prices effective and dump them on the foreigner. Whether or not we shall make the foreigner pay a monopoly price for this surplus or let him have it for what he is willing to pay for it is a mere detail that can be left to the exigencies of individual circumstances. We, of course, have often had some rather hard things to say about foreign monopolies that insisted upon dumping their surpluses upon our markets and about other foreign monopolies that exacted outrageous prices from us as consumers--but why bring up disagreeable subjects at a time when a real utopia is about to be ushered in?"

Exports

Exports of the United States for the first nine months of this year were greater than those of any full year before 1916, according to a report on American foreign trade for the first three quarters of 1925 made public to-day by the foreign commerce department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The report points out that total exports for the first nine months of 1925 amounted to three and one-half billion dollars, which averages 389 million dollars monthly. This is twelve per cent greater than a year ago.

Farm Relief

An editorial in the Washington Post for December 31 says: "Politicians, bankers and self-appointed spokesmen of western farmers make the ambitious threat that the protective tariff will be destroyed unless the Government takes steps to handle the small surplus of farm products. One or two of these spokesmen, like Senator Brookhart and the former Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Meredith, come out flat-footed for price-fixing by the Government. Representative Haugen, of Iowa, contributes this scintillating piece of political economy: 'Tariff-protected industries enjoy indirect price-fixing. There is nothing paternalistic or socialistic or difficult about fixing prices.' Mr. Haugen's own demand refutes his statement. If tariff-protected industries enjoy indirect price-fixing, he has no right to ask for anything more for agriculture, for it is one of the most highly protected industries. Nothing produced on the American farm is left without tariff protection, and nothing consumed by the farmer is subjected to a tariff duty. If any class is specially benefited by the tariff it is the farmer class...."

Florida Rubber Trees

An Ocala, Fla., dispatch to the press of December 31 states that nurserymen who have accepted rubber trees from the Ford agency at Ocala are of opinion they can be grown in sufficient numbers to make rubber production practicable. The trees, which were received five months ago and set out in the Hartmann nurseries, have grown from the size of a lead pencil to that of a broomstick and are now several feet high. They were set on low land, which nurserymen believe was a mistake, as they are now too green and full of sap properly to withstand a severe winter, but they were not injured by a recent frost and it is thought that they will come through the winter in good condition.

Taussig on Tariff Board — In recent appointments to the United States Tariff Commission, political expediency had been carried "to a dangerous and lamentable extreme," Dr. F. W. Taussig, Harvard University economist, and chairman of the commission from 1917 to 1919, told the American Economic Association at New York December 29.

Game Conservation — "The Last Stand of Our Wild Life" is the title of an extensive article by H. E. Anthony, associate curator of mammals of the western hemisphere, American Museum of Natural History, in The Country Gentleman for January. The author opens his article as follows: "It has been stated on good authority that the Age of Mammals is rapidly drawing to a close. President Henry Fairfield Osborn, of the American Museum of Natural History, believes that by the middle of the present century this last cycle of life will have ended and the world will be entering upon a new series of incidents in which 'wild' mammals will play no part. This situation is one of great importance to us all, and the man who would exploit any wild mammal to the point of extermination would do well to consider every phase of the question before it is too late." Mr. Anthony closes his narrative with these words: "With all the modern means of destruction at his disposal--improved guns, traps and poisons, with railroads, automobiles and aeroplanes to carry him to the last stronghold of mammal life, with an economic motive to urge him and a sophistry to lull his conscience man will lack nothing to close this Age of Mammals in the very near future But I do not like to believe that man will be so shortsighted, nor do I like to think that economic pressure, seemingly bent on mammal destruction is fundamentally sound and hence inevitable. There are some rays of hope to show that realization is coming and that vested interests are concerned about any possible decrease in the number of wild mammals. The fur industry appears to be making efforts to learn the factors which govern their raw supply, and our Federal Government has been conducting for some time researches along the lines of fur conservation. But the waste places of to-day are ordained, to a great extent, to be the farms and ranches of tomorrow, and in the hands of the farmers and the ranchers, more perhaps than in the hands of any other class of men, lie the destinies of the wild mammals. My plea is not that conservation should be indulged in the face of sound economic fact, but that moderation be the rule for conservation as well as for extermination."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products — Dec. 31: Eastern Round White potatoes $4.35 to $4.85 sacked per 100 lbs. in consuming centers; $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Bulk stock ranged $4.35 to $4.75 in New York and Philadelphia. Maine sacked Green Mountains $4.65 to $5 in eastern markets, with bulk stock $4.70 to $5 in New York and $4.25 to $4.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York Baldwin apples $3.75 to $4.25 per bbl. in distributing centers and $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage $40 to $60 bulk per ton in most markets but reached $70 in Philadelphia. Midwestern white onions $4.50 to $5 in Chicago.

Grain prices quoted December 31: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.73 to $1.90. No.2 red winter, Kansas City $1.88; St.Louis $1.91 to $1.94; No.2 hard winter Kansas City $1.82 to $1.84. No.3 mixed corn, St.Louis 77¢; Minneapolis 72 to 75¢; Kansas City 76¢. No.3 yellow corn St.Louis 76 1/2 to 78¢ Minneapolis 79 to 82¢; Kansas City 76 1/2¢; No.3 white corn Kansas City 76 1/2 to 77¢. No.3 white oats St.Louis 44 1/2¢; Minneapolis 38 1/4 to 38 1/2¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 17 points, closing at 19.69¢ per lb.; New York Jan. future contracts advanced 31 points, closing at 19.96¢. - - -

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Vol.XX, No. 2 Section 1 January 4, 1926

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION Farm relief legislation probably will take shape in the House earlier than in the Senate. Members of the Iowa delegation, where the farm situation is said to be acute and where discontent among the agriculturists has been accentuated, will introduce measures to provide for disposition of surplus farm products and Federal aid in connection therewith. They will demand immediate hearings before the agricultural committee, and the sentiment of the membership of that body is that early consideration and framing of legislation in aid of the farmer is imperative. In this committee, as elsewhere, there will be a sharp divergence of opinion as to the proper remedy and the extent to which the Federal Government may go in rendering aid, but that a bill measurably satisfactory to the agricultural interests will be reported is conceded. (Press, Jan. 4.)

FARM RELIEF PLAN A St. Paul dispatch to the press to-day says: "A farm relief plan, based on export bounty and excise on production, has been drafted here and is receiving widespread consideration by business men and farmers. Its author is C. R. Noyes, president of the largest wholesale drug house in the Northwest. Taking wheat as an example, the Noyes plan provides for a bounty of 40 cents a bushel on all wheat exported. To cover the cost of this bounty to the Government the plan provides for an excise tax on all wheat produced."

COOPERATIVE MARKETING CONFERENCE The Washington Post to-day says: "Agricultural relief, the bugbear of President Coolidge and Congress, will be discussed from the cooperative marketing standpoint by some of the country's leading farm experts at the fourth national cooperative marketing conference that opens at the Lee house a week from tomorrow. The meeting will be held under the auspices of the national council of Farmers' Cooperative Marketing associations and will continue for four days--Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week. Among the notable agricultural authorities who will address the body will be former Gov. Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois; Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine, Judge R. W. Bingham, of Louisville, Ky.; Aaron Sapiro, J. E. Brownlee, premier of Alberta, Canada, and J. C. Stone, president and general manager of the Burley Tobacco Growers' Cooperative association."

CHINESE FLOUR IN CANADA A Seattle dispatch to the press of January 4, says: "Revolutionary changes in distributive conditions of the Chinese flour market are throwing a business that for twenty-five years has been controlled by North Coast flour mills into the hands of Canadian manufacturers. Exporters here who last year sold 1,500,000 sacks into China sold only 200,000 sacks in 1925. Cheaper cost of Canadian wheat has brought about the change. For many years Canadian mills were handicapped in handling this business because their flour, made from Canadian wheat, was always dark, and the Chinese will not buy dark flour. This season, however, bleaching machinery has been installed in Canada, and the flow of Dominion flour into North China has been heavy....."

Section 2

Cooperation An editorial in The Country Gentleman for January says: "The beginning of the new year is a good time for a careful scrutiny and re-evaluation of cooperative farm marketing--especially since Congress is being asked to finance a new subdivision of the Department of Agriculture whose functions will be to encourage and advise cooperators, and to rush out life-saving crews to rescue them when their own pilots get them into shoal waters. During the past twelve months the Maine and Minnesota potato exchanges have failed and the Grain Marketing Company has gone on the rocks. It is too late to save them, but the life-savers will have other immediate jobs, for the Dark Tobacco Growers' Association of Kentucky is rent with internal difficulties, a number of the State wheat pools are reported wabbly, and there are rumors of impending trouble elsewhere. On the other hand, the California Citrus Exchange, the California Walnut Growers, the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, and some others are outstanding successes, daily growing more powerful and better intrenched, and many hundreds of small cooperative enterprises have eminently proved their usefulness. Why the difference? Principally it seems to be that the successful organizations have learned that cooperative marketing is just plain, ordinary business, dependent upon good sense and good management; whereas the failures have looked upon it as a form of modern magic, immune to all the ills and hazards of other enterprises. The Country Gentleman is and always has been for cooperative farm marketing. We believe it is the best method yet devised to stabilize most branches of agriculture and put them on a profit basis. We believe that with proper management, with a reasonable control of the total crop, and with every member financially concerned, a cooperative association has unlimited power for good....."

Cotton Breeding Farm A Slaton, Tex., dispatch to the press of December 30 states that in order to develop a variety of cotton better adapted to the climatic and soil conditions of the South Plains region of Northwest Texas than that now grown here, a cotton-breeding farm of 5,000 acres is to be established near Slaton.

Credit Corporations Taxable National agricultural credit corporations have been held subject to income taxation in a ruling by A. W. Gregg, Solicitor of Internal Revenue. Mr. Gregg's ruling has not been made public by the Internal Revenue Bureau, but it has been circulated among the routine guiding decisions within the bureau, thus making it effective at once and entailing an immediate study of a number of returns under the revenue act of 1924. The ruling held that if the agricultural credit corporations were entitled to exemption at all, this must come under Section 231 of the act, and then asserted that Section 231 specifically carried into the revenue act exemptions granted certain forms of mutual and governmental agencies of finance. It was suggested as significant that the provision which authorized the formation of the national agricultural credit corporations failed to mention the exemption from taxation which had been granted to Federal intermediate credit banks, Federal farm loan associations and Federal loan banks as applicable to the newly authorized agency. (Press, Dec. 26.)

Farm Management An editorial in The Country Gentleman for January says: "Hard physical work was once the all-important factor in farm success. Clearing and improving land and supplying the home needs was then the main object;

mechanical aids were few and capital was scarce. The change that has taken place is illustrated by the records of a number of farmers in an Ohio county. These records, kept over a period of three years, show that the three men with the highest net incomes worked an average of only six minutes a day longer than the three with the lowest. The man who worked the longest hours of all stood more than halfway down the list in size of net income. The average year-around workday for them all was 8.8 hours on week days and 3.8 on Sundays. Other factors than hours of work account largely for the difference in these farmers' incomes. The more successful got better corn yields and larger returns for each dollar's worth of feed consumed by livestock, and their investments were better scaled to the producing capacity of their farms. Industriousness will always be necessary for success in farming or any other business. But good management and sound judgment are equally essential nowadays."

Meat Production Meat production in the United States during 1925 decreased somewhat as compared with 1924, owing to the decrease in hog production, but domestic consumption showed only a slight decrease owing to the fact that considerably less meat was exported than in 1924, according to a review of the year in the livestock and meat industry issued to-day by the Institute of American Meat Packers through its president, Oscar G. Mayer, of Chicago. "Meat produced under Federal inspection, which constitutes about two-thirds of our total production, was about a billion pounds less than in 1924," Mr. Mayer stated. "Exports showed a decline of about half a billion pounds. This decrease added approximately ten days meat requirements to our domestic supply. Total production of meat and lard for the year probably will approximate twenty billion pounds. Our exports, notwithstanding the decrease, will approximate one and a half billion pounds worth approximately two hundred fifty million dollars. Profits during the year have been very moderate. It was a difficult year for the packer because of the decrease in the supply of hogs, since, during most of the year, hogs cost more than the products could be sold for at the time of purchase. Later, enhancement of inventory values in some instances wiped out the losses incurred in this way, and enabled packers to round out the year with a modest profit." "One of the outstanding features of the year has been the increased value of livestock, Mr. Mayer pointed out. "Figures for the latest period available show that farmers have received $200,000,000 more for livestock than they did during 1924, in spite of the decreased numbers," he added. "The chief increase has occurred in the case of hogs. There can be no doubt that the increased value of livestock has been a potent factor in improving the condition of agriculture."

Sugar Conditions in Cuba Theo. H. Price, writing from Cuba to Commerce and Finance for December 30, says: "...During my visit I had opportunity to observe one such manifestation in the effort that was being made to induce the 'colonos,' or sugar planters, to refrain from cutting the cane that is now ripe unless they were given a larger share of the sugar derived from it than they had previously agreed to accept. This effort seems certain to fail. It was, in fact, doomed to failure from the first, for sugar is Cuba's economic life blood, and as the cane becomes worthless if it is not cut, an organized movement to destroy it reminds one of what Burke said about the impossibility of indicting a whole nation. But, although the sugar planters have failed in attempting what was economically impossible, the episode has an important bearing upon the future price of sugar, which is the subject I came to Cuba to study. It shows that in

Cuba, as in the United States, the farmers are awakening to a consciousness of their economic and political power, and that they will try to exercise this power whenever they can not obtain a fairly remunerative price for the product of their toil....."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended January 2, 1926: Butter markets firm during the early part of week but closed barely steady. Receipts at important markets lighter and supplies of fresh butter short in some quarters. More interest in storage goods. Foreign markets show further declines but appear firm as indicated by asking prices. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 48¢.

Receipts of livestock at seven important middle western markets to-day were 2,250 cattle, 950 calves, 25,500 hogs and 11,450 sheep and lambs, compared with 3,650 cattle, 600 calves, 69,000 hogs and 8,100 sheep and lambs a year ago. Receipts of hogs were fairly liberal for the week but prices were higher, especially the early part of the week when advances ranging from 50¢ to $1 were registered. Fat steer prices are full 25 to 50¢ higher than the close a week ago, better grades still lower than the previous week's high time. Fat she stock is full 50¢ to $1 higher, heifers showing the maximum gain and selling at $6.75 to $8.25. Vealers are $1 to $1.50 higher while stockers and feeders are about steady Fat lambs are 25 to 50¢ lower, slaughter yearling wethers 75¢ to $1 lower, two year old wethers around steady, fat aged sheep 25 to 50¢ higher and feeding lambs generally 25¢ higher than a week ago.

Potatoes advanced about 50¢ during the week in the East. Trading was dull at the close and prevailing range on sacked Pennsylvania Round Whites was $4.65 to $4.85 per 100 pounds. New York Round Whites ranged $4.35 to $4.65 in eastern cities and $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Cabbage advanced $15 to $20 per ton in leading markets. New York Danish type sold mostly around $50 to $55 bulk per ton in the large city markets and $40 to $45 f.o.b. Rochester. Onions about steady. Eastern and midwestern yellows $2.50 to $3.00 sacked per 100 pounds and $2.50 to $2.75 at country loading points. Apples rather unsteady. New York Baldwins $3.75 to $4.25 per barrel in distributing centers and $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. No reports received on cotton, grain, hay and feed. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr.Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 2, 1926,	Dec. 31, 1925,	Jan.2,1925
	20 Industrials	153.54	156.66	121.25
	20 R.R.stocks	113.10	112.93	99.22

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 4, 1926.)

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Vol. XX, No. 3 Section 1 January 5, 1926

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION — A bill designed to afford financial relief to agricultural interests was introduced yesterday by Representative Dickinson, of Iowa

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AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION LEGISLATION — To provide for national cooperation of the agricultural industry and credit facilities is the purpose of a bill introduced yesterday by Senator McKinley, of Illinois. (Press, Jan. 5.)

RAIL AND WATER RATES — Under the terms of a bill introduced yesterday by Senator Harris, of Georgia, rail and water rates on wheat, corn and cotton exported in vessels owned by the United States would be authorized. (Press, Jan. 5.)

MUSCLE SHOALS LEASE — The rules committee of the Senate yesterday approved a resolution to create a Congressional committee to negotiate for the leasing of the Government Muscle Shoals properties. (Press, Jan. 5.)

PUBLIC BUILDING BILL — Chairman Fernald, of the public building committee, introduced in the Senate yesterday the administration $150,000,000 public building bill. (Press, Jan. 5.)

RUBBER INVESTIGATION — A Washington dispatch to the press to-day says: "Preparations were being made yesterday by Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, to answer the defense of the British rubber monopoly undertaken publicly by Sir Robert Horne, former Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Hoover is to go before the House Interstate Commerce Committee Wednesday when that body starts its investigation of foreign monopolies of essential raw materials sold in the American market....In addition to the rubber situation, they will discuss the dependence of American consumers on Brazilian coffee, Chilean nitrates, Mexican sisal hemp and a number of other commodities."

BAKING MERGER COMPLAINT — An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "A new complaint, alleging violation of the Clayton act by the Continental Baking Corporation in acquiring control of more than a score of smaller bakeries throughout the country, has been served by the Federal Trade Commission. Filed on December 19, it was made public to-day by attorneys for the corporation in presenting its answer, a denial that the merger had effected a monopoly in the baking trade....The answer of the concern...declared it 'has no monopoly in any product in which it deals, nor can any one obtain such a monopoly in any community in the United States.'"

Section 2

Canadian Economic Conditions

If immigration could be maintained at the level of the ten years prior to the war, within a reasonable time Canada could overcome the difficulties which she faces in decreasing immigration and increasing emigration according to a survey just made by the research department of the Bankers Trust Company of New York. During November a conference was held by the delegates representing the Board of Trade of all the Canadian Provinces, having for its object the effecting of a better understanding between the western and the Atlantic communities, especially in regard to immigration, which is the greatest problem Canada is now facing. Two of the main recommendations of the conference were as follows: The immediate creation of a small non-political advisory board on colonization and agricultural development. The early investigation, in cooperation with the advisory board, of the feasibility of a great agricultural and colonization forward movement, including a scheme of moderately assisted settlement available to desirable agricultural settlers of European and American origin, carried out in conjunction with the Canadian railways and other land owning bodies, this movement to have due regard to the needs of and opportunities in every part of Canada, and particularly to the need of replenishing the rural population of the Maritime Provinces and the repatriation of the former Canadians, with special reference to former French-Canadians now resident in New England and the Atlantic States.

Cheese Industry in Finland

Cheese production in Finland has been increasing since the beginning of the present century and is fast gaining importance in the export business. Recent development has been particularly noteworthy, states Consul J. F. McGurk in a report received in the Department of Commerce. Production about 1900 amounted to only 551,150 kilos annually. In 1910 the production amounted to 3,307,000 pounds, in 1913 to 4,630,000 pounds, in 1922 to 6,944,500 pounds and in 1924 to 10,251,400 pounds. Export figures show a similarly rapid rise. In 1905 approximately 1,433,000 pounds were exported. Ten years later 1,818,000 pounds were exported, while in 1913 a total of 2,777,800 pounds were shipped out of the country. After the depression prevailing during the war exportation of cheese continued to increase and in 1923 amounted to 2,943,140 pounds and in 1924 to 7,716,100 pounds. (Press, Dec. 30.)

Foot and Mouth Disease in Britain

An editorial in The Journal of the (British) Ministry of Agriculture for December says: "As this issue of the Journal goes to press, 187 outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease on separate premises have taken place in a little more than eight weeks. In the exposure of animals at markets in the incubative stage of the disease lies the greatest potential danger of the spread of infection, and outbreaks having been confirmed in widely separated areas, in some of which markets have been involved, the Ministry has felt it imperative to take such precautionary measures as are possible to prevent the development of a still more serious situation. For this reason the Ministry came to the conclusion that it was necessary to impose a partial standstill order over the Midlands and South of England....Short of discovering a preventive of foot-and-mouth disease, slaughter, however objectionable, is the only way at present available of safeguarding the community from a widespread outbreak. The heavy cost is justified in the interests of agriculture. An isolation policy is impossible in this country; not only are the necessary buildings lacking wherein to isolate the stock; but it is

impossible to restrict the movements of human beings who, it has been proved, can and do carry the disease. In France, where the disease has got out of hand, and slaughter is not enforced, it is estimated that the farmers lose millions of pounds sterling every year. No fewer than 2,351 fresh outbreaks were notified there during the first three weeks of October last, while in September there were 7,823 cases in Holland and 3,658 cases in Denmark."

Imports

American imports for the year just ending promise to exceed four billion dollars in value, as indicated in figures now available, says the foreign commerce department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. In an import analysis just issued it is pointed out that nine months' imports this year have exceeded by 15 per cent the figures for the same period last year and that they were larger than for any full 12 months previous to 1919. The general trend of imports since 1920 has been decidedly upward and during the last twenty-one months the gain of imports in relation to exports has been more noticeable than before. A statement setting forth the important features in import trade during the first nine months of the year follows: Heavy receipts or high values established records or near-records among several of the leading commodities. Imports of raw silk set a new record in quantity imported - 45,822,000 lbs., and its value - $281,000,000 - was exceeded only in 1923. The spectacular rise in the price of crude rubber, coupled with increased American demand, established new records for that commodity in both quantity and value. The value, $258,000,000, for 9 months of 1925 has not been equaled by that of any full year, and the quantity, 637,000,000 pounds, has never been equaled in any previous 9 months period For the period rubber stood in second place in our list of imports, displacing sugar. Imports of cane sugar were the greatest in quantity, seven and one-third billion pounds, ever received in the United States in a 9-month period with one exception - 1922. Despite the low price, its value, $211,000,000, has been exceeded only four times - in 1919, 1920, 1923, and 1924. We began drinking more than a billion pounds of coffee a year in 1914. Since then our consumption has kept well above that mark even in the face of higher prices. The quantity imported during the first three quarters of 1925, falling off somewhat from last year to 928,000,000 lbs., was exceeded in 1917, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1923 and 1924, but the value, $209,000,000, was surpassed only once, in 1920. Furs are in demand. In 9 months of 1925 we imported 127,886,000 fur skins valued at $87,122,000 - figures never reached before, so far as the records show.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The American Fertilizer for December 26 says: "The United States is not the only country where Government crop reports are without honor. Europe has already agreed that the Russian wheat report was a Soviet lie. The Brazilian coffee report and the East Indian rubber report are questioned, and now the Argentine wheat report has caused a flurry on two continents....In the nature of things a crop report can not be exact. Ours are probably as close estimates as can be made, for the department's critics have not yet agreed on any way to better them."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products January 4, 1926: Pennsylvania sacked Round White potatoes sold 30¢ to 50¢ higher at $4.50 to $5 per 100 pounds in the East. Delaware and Maryland yellow varieties held at $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. New York Danish type cabbage ranged $10 to $20 higher than a week ago at $50 to $65 bulk per ton in leading markets and $42 to $50 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples sold at a range of $3.75 to $4.50 per barrel in city markets and $3.75 to $4.25 f.o.b. Rochester.

Bulk sales of hogs $11.30 to $11.70; beef steers choice $11.25 to $13, good $9.85 to $11.40; heifers good and choice $7.75 to $10.75; cows, good and choice, $6.40 to $8.50; canner and cutters, $3.65 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $5.50 to $8; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $5.85 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $14 to $16; yearling wethers, medium to choice $9.75 to $13.50; fat ewes, common to choice, $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 47¢; Chicago 45¢; Boston 48¢; Philadelphia 48¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 31 points, closing at 20¢ per lb. New York January future contracts advanced 29 points, closing at 20.25¢.

Grain prices quoted January 4: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.77 to $1.94. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.95 to $1.96. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.87 1/2; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 73 to 76¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 81 to 84¢; St. Louis 78 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 38 1/2¢; St. Louis 44 1/2¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 4,	Jan. 2,	Jan. 3, 1925
20 Industrials	158.75	158.54	122.20
20 R.R. stocks	112.40	113.10	99.33

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 5.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 4 Section 1 January 6, 1926

FARM AID BILL Representative King introduced a bill yesterday intended to aid agriculture by organizing the National Farmers' Finance Union, to be capitalized by the Government at $200,000,000 and authorized extend credit to farmers, their associations and their banks. The measure would provide that the management of the Government corporation be vested in a board of directors consisting of the Secretaries of the Treasury and Agriculture and four other persons to be appointed by the President. It would be authorized to lend money at interest rates not exceeding one per cent above the rate for commercial paper in the Federal Reserve Banks of the district affected. (Press, Jan. 6.)

THE VICE PRESIDENT ISSUES AGRICULTURAL STATEMENT A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day states that Vice President Dawes made public January 5, through his Chicago office, the exchange of ideas upon the agricultural problem of the exportable surplus which has been carried on for the last year between Sir Josiah C. Stamp, of England, economist and member of the first Committee of Experts, Reparations Commission, and now chairman of the London and Midland Railroad, and George N. Peek, president of the American Council of Agriculture, and Chester C. Davis, grain marketing director of the Illinois Agricultural Association. This correspondence was carried on through Vice President Dawes, as intermediary, and centers around economic principles alone, and not upon any specific bills which have been introduced for agricultural relief. Sir Josiah's "major conclusions" on the project for an export corporation, or farmers' pool to dispose of surplus crops at home and abroad, are summarized as follows: "There seems to be no reason why this process should not be carried on until the domestic price is pushed to the point at which the return to the farmer will bring his economic position into favorable comparison with that of other producers. The ultimate test of the scheme is whether the return on the capital and labor of the farmer is fair and reasonable in comparison with that secured by capital and labor in other economic spheres." The Americans find themselves in substantial agreement.

Sir Josiah also makes these points: "That in operation the plan must appreciably increase the volume of exports, if the domestic price is to be raised. That the domestic price increase will result in decreased demand, thus increasing further the volume that must be exported. That the new method of handling exports will result in a downward tendency in the world price. That, influenced by a rising price farmers will push production further, and increase the total supply on the market. That cost of living would be enhanced, leading to a wide circle of demands for increased wages. That unfavorable international reactions may result."

The Americans take issue with some of these statements. On the cost of living, they say: "Factory wages in the United States are well over 100 per cent above pre-war scales. Other indices of consumer's purchasing power indicate not only the equity of bringing up agricultural exchange value, but the ability of other groups to absorb such an equitable increase without setting in motion the vicious circle wage and price increases."

Section 2

Barnes on Grain Situation According to a statement of Julius H. Barnes, in the press of January 2, the outlook in grain for the new year, based largely on the fact that official estimates of the world's supply of wheat almost balances the demand, "is that of uncertainty, with rapid price changes and alternate confidence and distrust in price levels. It seems fair enough though, to conclude that another year of remunerative prices is in prospect for growers in the United States."

Canadian Sheep Industry The Canadian sheep industry is reviewed by H. J. Tisdale, assis general manager Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers, Limited, in Ontario Farmer for January 2. Mr. Tisdale says in part: "According to the lat available reports and estimates there are 572,456,200 sheep in the wor and of this total Canada has 2,686,000 sheep and lambs, or less than h of one per cent. The annual consumption of wool by the people of Cana is roughly 70,000,000 pounds, on a grease basis, that is, as it comes from the back of the sheep, whilst the total annual production in Cana is 15,000,000 pounds of which at least one-half is exported. The numb of shorn sheep in 1924 in Great Britain, with its small agricultural a was 25,637,000 whilst in Canada, with its vast grazing lands, the numb of shorn sheep was only 1,455,417....Canada can carry thousands more sl but no one has any business speculating in them. A flock will undoubte ly pay for itself and in many cases will do so the first year...."

Farm Implement Industry Alexander Legge, president of the International Harvester Compa states in the press of January 2 that the implement industry in the Un States has had a fairly good year and if prices for farm products maintain their present relation to what the farmer has to buy it should ha a further gain for 1926. On exports competition is becoming keener as industrial conditions improve abroad. The spread between cost levels i this country and other manufacturing nations is far greater than before the war and on many lines of farm implements varying soil and climatic conditions call for a diversification of output that limits the advantages of mass production.

Food Exports and Imports The foodstuffs trade of 1925 has been featured by a decline in a general way in exports of the two principal products, namely, grain a grain products and meat products, and on the other hand by a considera increase in exports of certain of the minor products, such as foodstuf , biscuits, macaroni, cheese, grapefruit and certain canned products, according to the foodstuffs division of the Department of Commerce. The declines have been due largely to a decrease in United States surplus, with consequent rising prices, and to increased production abroad, especially of bread grains and meat products. There was an increased im of a number of commodities, particularly raw sugar, tea, cocoa, molass chicle, spices and peanuts. There was a decline in imports of coffee several kinds of nuts, such as walnuts, almonds and pecans. It is pro ble that the lower price of sugar and the high price of coffee have be the principal factors influencing the importation of these products. (Press, Jan. 4.)

Land Bank Development Guy Huston, president of the Chicago Joint Stock Land Bank, sta in the press of January 2 that the year 1925 has been one of steady, consistent growth for Joint Stock Land Banks, the banks as a whole hav

increased their assets in excess of $100,000,000, the net increase of loans being $90,000,000, capital increase $7,000,000 and surplus, reserves, etc., $4,000,000. The growth of the banks does not reflect the loaning ability of the banks but is rather a reflection of the activity of farm selling, as virtually all prime farm mortgages originate in the sale of the farm.

Meat Situation — A review of the livestock and meat situation issued January 2 by the Institute of American Meat Packers, states in part: "With plenty of low-priced corn available, farmers have been feeding their animals most liberally during the last month or two, with the result that the average weight of hogs received at the leading markets has increased ten to fifteen pounds as compared with a year ago. As a consequence, lightweight cuts have become somewhat scarce, relative to demand, while the supply of cuts of medium and heavier weights has become more plentiful, a situation which has been reflected in the wholesale markets. Continued light receipts of hogs, with comparatively high prices for them, featured the trade during the month. There was a good demand for fresh pork products, but the demand for beef and smoked meats was only fair. The export trade in pork products showed some improvement over the trade during the previous month."

Rubber Consumption — Two million dollars worth of rubber a day is the record which the people of the United States are now making in the importation and consumption of that article, grown chiefly on the other side of the globe. The latest report of the Department of Commerce shows the value of rubber imported into the United States in the month of October, 1925 at 50 million dollars, or an average of two million dollars a day for each business day of the month, says the Trade Record of the National City Bank of New York, and probably a full two millions a day by the factories which pay the cost of transportation from the plantations on the other side of the globe to the factories in central United States.

Synthetic Rubber — A Rochester, N.Y., dispatch to the press of December 31 says: "Products obtained from petroleum through synthetic processes now being developed by organic chemists make petroleum the most valuable resource a country can have, Dr. James F. Norris, president of the American Chemical Society, told the National Symposium on Organic Chemistry at Rochester, December 29. Rubber was mentioned as among substances that soon will be derived from petroleum. It was disclosed that John D. Rockefeller, jr., has made a gift of $250,000 to the American Chemical Society for research work in petroleum."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture 1 — An editorial in The Southern Florist for January 1 says: "The decision of Secretary Jardine upholding the narcissus embargo will be greeted with applause by that section of the floral trade that is interested in the building up of a domestic supply. A goodly percentage of those are located in the territory which the Southern Florist tries to serve. Naturally, the importers of bulbs will be sorely disappointed, though we imagine not surprised, since all indications have pointed to the decision as made. It is, as the Secretary of Agriculture observed, unfortunate that in applying what seems a necessary protective measure innocent business interests must be made to suffer. We note, however, that certain of the importing firms have already made arrangements for

domestic production and are supporting the embargo. In the absence of expert knowledge, we can only accept the finding of the Department of Agriculture as justifiable under the circumstances. Meanwhile, everybody should be receptive to additional light, and be willing that the situation should be governed logically by the facts that the future may reveal."

Department of Agriculture 2

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for January 4 says: "Reports from the Department of Agriculture indicating that on the average American farmers are as well off this year as they were last are worthy of careful attention. Due in part to local crop failures in some instances and to some possible overproduction in others, crop values based on December 1 farm prices, as computed by the Department of Agriculture, are appreciably below those of last year. But higher prices for livestock now appear to offset the somewhat retrograded crop situation, leaving the average not greatly altered from last year. The general state of affairs thus outlined is of special importance in view of the Congressional situation that is developing. Last year, it is to be recalled, was hailed as the best the farmers had had for a good many years past, and such it was. To say, therefore, that on the average all is as well as it was last year is to say a good deal. What basis is there then for the appeals for all sorts of aid from the rest of the community that are being made by farmers and their friends at Washington?"

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 5: New York sacked Round White potatoes ranged $4.50 to $4.85 per 100 pounds in eastern cities and sold at $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester New York and midwestern yellow onions $2.75 to $3.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; $2.55 to $3 f.o.b. New York Danish type cabbage $50 to $60 bulk per ton in leading markets, top of $70 in Philadelphia and mostly $45 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples $3.50 to $4.50 per barrel in leading markets; $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. Northwestern extra fancy Winesaps $2.75 to $3 per box.

Chicago hog prices, bulk of sales closed at $11.40 to $11.80; steers choice $11.25 to $12.75; heifers. good and choice $7.75 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.40 to $8.50; canners and cutters $3.65 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice $5.50 to $8; stockers and feeders, common to choice $5.50 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $14.25 to $16.40; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10 to $13.75; fat ewes, common to choice $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs, medium to choice $14.50 to $16.25.

Grain prices quoted January 5: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.73 to $1.90. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.92 1/2; Kansas City $1.87 to $1.90. No.2 hard winter St.Louis $1.83 to $1.86; Kansas City $1.80 to $1.85. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 72 to 75¢; Kansas City 75¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 79 to 83¢; St. Louis 76 3/4¢; Kansas City 76¢. No.2 white corn St. Louis 74 1/2¢; Kansas City 76¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 38 1/2¢; St.Louis 44¢; Kansas City 44¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 20 points, closing at 19.71¢ per lb. New York January future contracts declined 38 points, closing at 19.87¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 5,	Jan. 4,	Jan. 5, 1925
	20 Industrials	157.60	158.75	119.46
	20 R.R. stocks	112.36	112.40	99.14
	(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 6.)			

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 5 Section 1 January 7, 1926.

HOOVER ON FOREIGN TRUSTS A strong stand against monopolistic foreign combinations that regulate the output, distribution and price of crude rubber, nitrate, potash and other important products consumed in the United States in large quantities, and in which the governments of Great Britain, France, Germany, Brazil, Chile and other powers are held to be directly involved, was taken before the committee on interstate and foreign commerce of the House yesterday by Secretary Hoover, speaking as the representative of the administration. Secretary Hoover told the committee, which yesterday began an investigation into the methods of foreign combinations, alleged to be operated under Government control, that such manipulation "threatens not only the same progress of the world but contains in it great dangers to international good will." In a secret session, which was held at Mr. Hoover's request, he told the committee that the efforts of this Government to obtain relief, through diplomatic channels, for American importers of many raw products, from the exactions of foreign monopolies, had failed. He therefore thought it was time, he said, that Congress and the Executive should take such measures as seemed appropriate to relieve a situation which he regarded as alarming. Secretary Hoover informed the committee that at present there are combinations abroad, working under governmental control, that practically monopolize nine raw materials and that there are some twenty or thirty other commodities in the world which could likewise be controlled by action of one government or by agreement between two governments. The nine products now under Government control, he said, were rubber, Egyptian staple cotton, camphor, coffee, iodine, nitrates, potash, mercury, and sisal. At existing prices, if this country maintained its present rate of consumption, he said, imports of these commodities in 1926 would cost America about $1,200,000,000. (Press, Jan. 7.)

WHITE RADIO BILL APPROVED The White bill, to provide for control of the radio industry was indorsed yesterday before the House merchant marine committee by Secretary Hoover and other members of the Commerce Department, officers of the Navy and Coast Guard and representatives of radio and telephone organizations. The bill would give the Secretary of Commerce administrative charge of radio and would establish a commission of nine to pass on applications for licenses and perform other similar functions. Asserting that Government control was necessary to prevent chaos in the air, Secretary Hoover testified that the measure was the result of two years' study and seemed to meet, as nearly as possible, the problem of regulating the air. He contended that no one person was "wise enough" to decide which city, company or individual should have the right to a certain wave length in a region. With the commission recommending or disapproving petitions, he pointed out, disappointed applicants would have the right of appeal to the courts. (Press, Jan. 7.)

MARKETING ASSOCIATION ASKED Creation of an interstate farm marketing association "to place agricultural industry on a sound commercial basis and to encourage cooperations, was introduced in the House yesterday by Representative Aswell. (Press, Jan. 7.)

Section 2

Corn Price Fixing

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 6 says: "Stripped to its essentials the Congressional agitation on behalf of the farmer amounts to a revival of the vicious principle of price fixing for corn. It means that the United States Government is to stand ready to take what is called the 'export surplus' of corn, at some such price as $1.25 or $1.50 a bushel, according to the gullibility of Congress and th taxpayer, with the farmer unrestricted in the matter of production and the taxpayer footing the bill. To keep its condition liquid, the Government would be obliged to sell corn abroad at a loss on every bushel, in competition with Argentina and other producers of maize for a world market. It would be economically wrong to attempt to fix prices in a domestic market which we could control. But in a world market, we would be up to be shot at with no means of protecting ourselves. The real beneficiary would be our foreign competitor up to the point where we were compelled to abandon an indefensible position. Observe what the effect would be to the consumer. Corn is low at 80 cents a bushel, but the livestock to which it is fed, hogs and beef cattle, are fetching goo prices. The farmer who raises hogs has no complaint. But guarantee him fifty per cent more for his corn and he would not be at the trouble to raise hogs. The price of all meat products would therefore advance, and a good many people would need to drop bacon from their breakfast menu. Every consumer would pay more without a single compensation. The taxpayer would have to shoulder the loss made by the export corporation, in addition to paying more for bacon, ham and lard. But to terrorize the Republican party, Senator Capper and his friends threaten to attack the tariff. It is matter of history that the Fordney-McCumber tariff was revised in every item by the farm bloc of which Senator Capper was the high priest. The farmers received every concession for which they asked, with perhaps the single exception of a duty on hides. The tariff as it stands to-day is their tariff....."

Farmer and the Tariff

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for January 5 says: "There is grave danger that Congressional supporters of the administration may be rushed into doing something radical to help the farmers as a means of escaping the awkward issue of tariff revision. The President's evident desire to leave tariff schedules undisturbed puts a very effective weapo of offense in the hands of various disgruntled elements in the community Whether or not members of the farm bloc anticipate the lightening of agricultural ills through changes in tariff rates, they can make attacks upo existing schedules a starting point from which to create political disaffection and thus by indirection secure consideration for some of their cherished subsidy schemes or similar plans.... "

Farm Situation in Iowa

An editorial in New York Commercial for January 5 says: "Eastern papers are still saying much about the revolt of the farmers of Iowa. The revolt is a myth. The ills which the Federal Government is urged to correct, through legislative action, are ills made by the individuals, and which the individuals can correct. Certain New York papers have been predicting many bank failures in Iowa. Such a statement is unfair to say the least, because it creates a feeling of suspicion against every bank in that State. What's the matter with Iowa -- and a number of other farming States? Nothing but an era of overspeculation....They are now experiencing the pains of the 'morning after.'...No legislation...found in Washington can correct the ill. When the people of Iowa and other

States that are clamoring for relief go back to the principles of hard work and thrift; when they invest no more money in land than will bring a fair return; when those who know nothing about the banking business retire from that field; when the ever present and active reformer is given the air,...then, and not until then, will the farming States that are now suffering return to normal and the cure be effected."

Horne Assails Rubber Agitation

Sir Robert Horne, former British Chancellor of the Exchequer, contributes a lengthy statement defending Britain's rubber restriction policy in The New York Times for January 3. Sir Robert says in part: "Whatever view the American manufacturer and consumer of rubber takes of the British scheme of restriction, I am puzzled to understand what disadvantage he thinks he suffers from. He is paying exactly the same price for his rubber as his British, French or Italian competitor. The British manufacturer gains no benefit at the expense of the American, and the American suffers no prejudice at the hands of the British. In the world's markets they are on absolutely an equal footing.....Nobody denies the right of the American Government to manage its tariffs as it chooses, but where complaint is made of the action of the British Government it ought to be kept in view that we are interfering with the natural inflow of world commerce in an infinitessimal degree compared with that which characterizes the trade policy of America....I agree with those who think the present high prices of rubber are a disadvantage ultimately to the rubber producing industry itself. I should like to see them back at a more healthy figure. I am confident that the ordinary operation of economic laws and market conditions will bring about that result."

A London dispatch to the press of January 6 says: "The Times, which previously had not commented editorially on the rubber controversy, said January 5: 'We regret that Secretary Hoover allowed himself to be drawn into a series of statements which can only be described as inaccurate, unwise and calculated to cause ill-feeling among Americans imperfectly familiar with the facts. His allegations of profiteering--for that is what they amount to--are quite unjustified. It is not a case for recrimination but for common sense. At best Mr. Hoover's laments can not increase the world's production of rubber; at worst they may serve to check a world-wide movement for the amicable adjustment of economic difficulties between nations by mutual concession and agreement.'"

On this subject, an editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 5 says: "Every thoughtful American will be grateful to the New York Times for securing the illuminating statement of Sir Robert Horne on the rubber question. He was Chancellor of the Exchequer at the time the Stevenson Act restricting rubber production was passed. He states the true position even if his parallel with the American tariff is neither exact nor convincing. In the recent past C. W. Barron, writing from Europe, pointed out in these columns that our tire manufacturers had the opportunity, less than two years ago, of buying the British rubber output for five years ahead on a basis of something like thirty-five cents a pound. Before that they had enjoyed the advantage of rubber bought below the cost of production, and gambled on the chance of the price going back to twenty-two cents or so. They lost, and it must be admitted that they are poor losers. But Sir Robert's parallel of our tariff is anything but convincing. Foreign nations can erect tariff barriers against ourselves, and he should have been sufficiently acquainted with the American Constitution to know that Congress can not

impose export duties--on wheat or anything else. There is all the difference in the world between imposing a tariff on a manufactured product and doing the best we can to get raw material cheaply. The advance in rubber was inevitable, in view of the enormous American demand. The expiry of restriction in February will probably make no difference in the price. We are not paying more for rubber than anybody else, but we are doing curiously little to secure an independent supply....It is our own people who bear the burden of the tariff, and our theory is that they do so for value received. Certainly foreign nations continue to export to us in large volume where they have something to sell which we buy on quality, regardless of price. What would the manufacturers of Scotch tweeds, West of England cloths or Belfast linen do without our market, heavily protected as it is? Tariff is a round game and the British are 'safeguarding' their industries with a 33 per cent protection against American motor cars."

Horse Import Plans — A Battle Creek, Mich., dispatch to the press of January 6 states that the Enquirer and News, in a copyrighted article January 5, tells of the plans of W. K. Kellogg, breakfast food manufacturer, to finance an expedition into Arabia, the first of the kind in twenty-one years, to import pure blood horses of Arabian strain from the desert. Mr.Kellogg will attempt to reproduce Arab horses in native strains, and will offer surplus to the Government for use in the army remount service, the article says.

London Founds Horse Institute — A London dispatch to the press of January 6 states that the Institute of the Horse has been founded in London to revive interest in horsemanship and riding. The founders admit the motor car is "Boss of the Road," but they want to rethrone the horse as "King of the Bridle Paths." The institute hopes to reopen a number of bridle paths throughout the country which have fallen into disuse, including one leading from London to the New Forest, in Southwest England, nearly 100 miles long. The organization also proposes to stimulate horse breeding and champion the welfare of the horse in every way possible.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture — An editorial in The Florists Exchange for December 26 says: "'The longest way"round" is certainly the shortest way home' in regard to news of the Quarantine 37 radio talk referred to in W. E. Groves' Canadian letter. Either it escaped the alert ears of all our more local readers, as it did ours, or else it was considered as of no special importance. At any rate, we didn't realize that the Department of Agriculture--if that is, indeed, the source of the material--was going to such lengths to defend the policy to which the Federal Horticultural Board has committed it. As a matter of fact we wonder whether this program of broadcasting terrifying possibilities is one of which Secretary Jardine is fully advised, and with which he is in full accord? If so, why, we wonder, doesn't the department do its own broadcasting from Washington, in a frank open way, instead of offering its propaganda as 'news' through Pittsburgh or other stations. Of the efficacy of such methods we are becoming more and more aware, as we learn the power of mental suggestion."

The Canadian letter referred to says in part: "Radio fans on this side of the border listening in a few nights ago, were amused and somewhat amazed to hear a statement being broadcasted on the matter of

Quarantine 37. The speaker apparently was at Pittsburgh and judging from the delivery, the message was fead, and presumably had been given out for the purpose by the Department of Agriculture. Practically all the known diseases were enumerated and, according to the message, every one of them was imported from some other unfortunate country. Both East and West were said to be responsible for the pests, and had it not been for the action of the Federal Horticultural Board, the United States would now be positively overrun with pests of one kind and another.....

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products. Jan. 6: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.65 for the top; bulk of sales $11.50 to $12; beef steers choice $11.25 to $12.75; heifers, good and choice $7.75 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.40 to $8.50; canners and cutters $3.65 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $5.50 to $8; stockers and feeders, common to choice $5.50 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $14.50 to $16.50; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; fat ewes, common to choice $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.25.

Potatoes 15¢ to 50¢ higher in the East; about steady in midwestern markets and 25¢ to 35¢ lower at North Central shipping points. New York sacked Round Whites $4.50 to $4.85 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; $4.25 to $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples firm at $4 to $4.75 per barrel in leading markets; common storage stock $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage ranged $5 to $20 higher than a week ago at $50 to $65 bulk per ton in distributing centers, top price of $85 in Philadelphia. New York and Midwestern yellow onions $2.75 to $3.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; $2.50 to $3 f.o.b.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 45¢; Chicago 43¢; Philadelphia 46¢; Boston 45 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted January 6: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.75 to $1.92. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.94 1/2; Kansas City $1.82 1/2; No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.85; Kansas City $1.78 to $1.86; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 72 to 75¢; Kansas City 75¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 79 to 83¢, No.3 white oats Minneapolis 39¢; St. Louis 44 1/4¢; Kansas City 44¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 19 points closing at 19.90¢ per lb. New York January future contracts advanced 18 points, closing at 20.05¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 6,	Jan. 5,	Jan. 6, 1925.
	20 Industrials	158.00	157.60	121.13
	20 R.R. stocks	112.45	112.36	100.27

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 7.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 6 Section 1 January 8, 1926.

CORN PRICE An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago to-day says: "Dollar corn yesterday became a reality for buyers of farm implements. Confident that corn will reach $1 or more a bushel within the next six months, the International Harvester Co. authorized its dealers to accept any merchantable corn in payment for farm implements on the basis of $1 a bushel for No.2 corn at Chicago. The company said that if corn goes above $1 before the farmer is called on to deliver next May, June or July, he can sell it elsewhere and pay for his implements in the regular way."

BRITISH AGAIN WARNED OF ARSENIC ON APPLES An Associated Press dispatch from London to-day states that British officials for the second time in recent weeks have called attention to the danger of arsenic poisoning from imported apples. The Middlesex County Council has distributed a leaflet to dealers referring to the recent announcement of the Minister of Health that certain imported apples have been found to contain arsenic on the skin surface. The leaflet points out that in spite of recent precautions quantities of dangerous-ly contaminated apples are still on sale and warns the public against eating the skins. The leaflet does not refer to the suspected apples as American, but merely says they are imported.

RUBBER BUYERS ASSAIL BRITISH LAW Great Britain's regulation of the output, shipment and price of crude rubber, grown by British interests in Malay and Ceylon, was assailed yesterday by witnesses before the House interstate and foreign commerce committee, which is inquiring into such Government "controls" to ascertain their effect upon American trade and determine what measures, if any, may be devised to obtain relief from advancing costs of many staple commodities imported for American consumption. (Press, Jan. 8.)

REVISION OF BRITISH RUBBER ACT REPORTED LIKELY An Associated Press dispatch from London to-day says: "The Stevenson rubber restriction scheme having played its part, it is probably now due for fundamental revision, says an editorial in the Westminster Gazette, discussing the general inadvisability of any scheme of protection or trade restriction....It is the general opinion in the rubber market that if the Stevenson scheme were scrapped there would still be an excess demand over the supply of rubber for some time to come. Rumors have been circulated that the British Government would advise an early repeal of the restrictive legislation to the governments concerned, but thus far it has been impossible to obtain confirmation of this."

EXPORT BOUNTY BILL An agricultural export bounty bill was introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator McKinley. Under its terms an exporter of farm products would be reimbursed for the duty levied on his goods by the country of destination. The funds for this reimbursement would come out of the general revenue raised by the American tariff law. (Press, Jan. 8.)

Section 2

Agricultural Relief

John F. Fennelly is the author of an article on farm relief measures in Commerce and Finance for January 6. In this he says: "In order to relieve the suffering of frontier farmers of the West we would scatter aid all over the country in places where it is not needed. The same general principle would apply in the case of the corn growers. The aid actually rendered to the suffering corn belt would be insignificant in proportion to the total cost of any such scheme. But after everything has been said against these plans the fact remains that they can not be dismissed merely by economic reasoning. As previously stated in these pages the farmer has a permanent grudge against the existing order of society, and, in his present mood, he is not going to be satisfied until something definite is done about it. There is enough truth in the outcries of the farmer against the tariff system to give a certain plausibility to any schemes he may propose. Also it must be admitted that the plans now under consideration strike closer to the heart of our agrarian ills than anything that has gone before. In one sense, these price-fixing schemes mark a distinct advance over the earlier attacks against the grain exchanges, the railroads and the national credit system. The farmer has apparently come to the realization that his troubles come from something much more fundamental, and in this he is correct. It is because the small, independent farmer is a misfit in the present economic order and has no chance, when standing alone, to bargain successfully with the massed forces of industry. Even the tariff is only a side issue in this struggle, a secondary effect of the farmer's inability to control production and thus win a larger share of the social surplus....Agriculture provides to-day one of the few remaining examples of what the classical economists termed free competition. As long as this condition exists the farmer is always certain to get the short end of the stick. And if he ever does succeed in establishing an effective monopoly for his products the preponderating population of the cities will rise up and crush it, because, in the last analysis, the interests of the consumer are bound to dominate. One prominent agricultural expert recently expressed to the writer the belief that the farmers would only learn from experience the futility of artificial price-fixing. And, after all, it might not prove an entirely unmixed evil. It might be the entering wedge to a general reduction of our whole tariff system, which is the one sound remedy that could be applied.

Corn Products

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 7 says: "If Senator Cummins and Representative Cole really wished to help the corn producers, why did they introduce a bill to legislate away a 'discrimination' against corn sugar when there is no real discrimination? Why do they not take a business view of the situation, and suggest a way to increase the use of corn sugar, thus broadening the industrial demand for corn? This is the true way to help their friends. The alleged discrimination they would repeal is in the administration of the pure food law by the Department of Agriculture. It requires that when corn sugar is substituted for sugar the label on the product shall state that fact. There is nothing in the regulations to prohibit the use of corn sugar. But as it does not contain as much saccharine as corn or beet sugar, and does not possess the same energy and calorific value, the label is required in order that the consumer may not be deceived. It would be a difficult matter to convince an unprejudiced person that this is discrimination. True labeling of any product creates confidence, provided

it has merits of its own. Corn sugar has such merits that it needs no legislative attempt to permit it to be palmed off on consumers as something which it is not. The Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture declares that it is nutritious and perfectly digestible, and that for some purposes it is superior to sugar. That is the fact on which the farmers' friends might work with advantage. They should learn the best characteristics of corn sugar and find a wider use for it....Go to it, gentlemen of the corn belt, farmers, bankers, politicians and every one else interested, and broaden the use of corn. You need not fear that you will ever be able to exhaust its uses. Providence never meant this grain merely to fatten hogs. A noted scientist once said that a chemist could spend a lifetime studying a kernel of corn. There are acres of diamonds under the feet of the complaining corn producer. Why not begin with corn sugar and broaden the market for its legitimate use?"

Packers' Outlook F. Edson White, president of Armour & Co., in the press of January 2, says: "This year holds much in the way of encouragement for the packing industry. Conditions on the farms point to a satisfactory volume of meat product and conditions in the business and industrial world indicate a purchasing power which will enable satisfactory margins. A pleasing aspect is that there promises to be a steadier marketing of meat animals than is usually the case. It seems probable hogs will sell on a lower basis. Beef cattle are in much the same situation."

Prices in France Wholesale prices in France, according to the index number compiled by the French statistical bureau and transmitted to the Bankers Trust Company of New York by its French information service, increased from 584 at the end of October to 618 at the end of November. This official index number is calculated on a basis of 100 in July 1914 for the average price of 45 different articles out of which 20 represent food stuffs. Retail prices also showed an increase in November, according to the official index number for Paris which is based on the retail prices of 13 essential articles, i.e. bread, meat, lard, butter, eggs, milk, cheese, potatoes, beans, sugar, oil, kerosene and methylated spirits and which rose from 433 in October to 444 in November.

Pulpwood An editorial in The Washington Post of January 5 says: "For some time propaganda has been employed to induce the Canadian Parliament, which convenes on the 7th instant, to impose an embargo on the exportation of pulpwood. The plea is used that such a move will conserve the Canadian forests. As a matter of fact, about 90 per cent of the Canadian forest areas are crown lands; and under the Canadian law timber from crown lands can not be exported. Of the remaining 10 per cent only about 18 per cent is cut for pulp purposes. Of this timber thus cut, Canada consumes three times as much as the United States. Thus a proposed embargo for purposes of conservation would affect only a very small portion of the timber area outside crown lands. Manifestly the interests moving for an embargo are not controlled by any conservation purpose, but wish to raise the price of pulpwood and thus in a large measure control the price of paper, including newspaper, in the United States.... An embargo on the export of Canadian pulpwood to the United States would cripple a very large American industry, and raise the price of paper."

Roads of the South Manufacturers Record for January 7 presents a series of articles entitled "The Story of the South's Good Roads," comprising a 34-page review of southern road development during the year 1925, with descriptions of specific projects in many of the States.

Rubber Price A Birmingham, Ala., dispatch to the press of January 6 states that Harvey Firestone, tire manufacturer, has expressed the opinion that the peak in rubber prices has been reached.

Silt Cost In California A Yuma, Ariz., dispatch to the press of January 3 states that farmers in the Imperial Valley of California pay nearly $1,000,000 a year for dredging out of irrigation systems the silt deposited by the Colorado River. Engineers have estimated the Colorado River carries past Yuma 196,700,000 tons of silt annually and that an average of 185,000 cubic yards of it goes into the Imperial Valley district every month.

Sugar Situation Facts About Sugar for January 2 says: "From present indications 1926 will be a year of readjustment in the sugar industry, a year in which demand will overtake supply on the expanded basis which the latter has attained during the past two seasons and will reestablish a more normal and satisfactory relationship between the two than has existed during 1925. It promises to be a year in which relatively low prices will act as a special incentive to the adoption of methods and equipment that will reduce costs, increase efficiency, and save labor. In this respect it promises steady progress in placing the industry on a basis of stable efficiency which will serve as a substantial foundation for future prosperity."

Tobacco Industry Report Results of the Federal Trade Commission's investigation into the conditions of marketing Virginia-Carolina tobacco have been transmitted to Attorney General Sargent by the White House. While the President has felt it desirable to obtain the Justice Department's views upon the commission's report, it was emphasized that no inference should be drawn that disclosure of criminality in the trade has been made. Originally the Trade Commission was engaged in investigating charges that monopoly existed in purchases in the "bright" tobacco field. The commission examiners, however, also investigated the handling of tobacco by the cooperative associations of growers, with the result that a reconsideration of the whole work was demanded and granted to the cooperative organizers. The report to the President is understood to include findings both as to the methods of the manufacturing purchasers and those of the local cooperative societies that assemble the tobacco from the farmer. (Press, Jan. 1.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

1 In an editorial review of the Secretary's Annual Report, Western Farm Life for December 15 says: "In taking this stand on cooperative marketing the Secretary's report places the stamp of approval of our Government on this great farmer's movement which has already made much progress without any great amount of encouragement in high places. It should be a source of satisfaction to the hosts of pioneer farmers who have labored and sacrificed for cooperation, who have 'carried on' against great odds, who have suffered and borne the skepticism of neighbors and the contumely of selfish opposition that at last the intelligence and power of the general Government recognize their efforts as wise and their aims as worthy."

2 An editorial in New York Commercial for January 6 says: "The Department of Agriculture has allotted $25,125,000 to different States for road construction. It may be within the law, but at the same time it is bad practice for this Government to collect money from the citizens of one State and use that money for the exclusive benefit of the citizens of another State. Certainly the principle upon which this Nation was

founded--the sovereignty of the individual States--is violated. The practice can lead to but one end, further centralization of Government at Washington. Centralization of Government is a step to Government in business; Government in business in time will bring the nationalization of industries; the nationalization of industries will result in the abolition of the personal property right and the overthrow of our form of Government...."

Section 4

Farm Products Jan. 7: New York sacked Round White potatoes mostly $4.50 to $4.65 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; $4.25 to $4.35 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern stock $4.25 to $4.50 on the Chicago carlot market; $3.85 to $4.10 f.o.b.

New York Baldwin apples firm at $4 to $5 per barrel in leading markets; common storage stock $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage ranged generally higher at $50 to $75 bulk per ton in consuming centers, top of $90 in Philadelphia; mostly $45 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida new cabbage $3 to $3.25 per 1 1/2 bushel hamper in Philadelphia and $2.50 to $2.75 in Chicago. New York and midwestern yellow varieties of onions $2.75 to $3.25 sacked per 100 pounds in leading city wholesale markets; $2.50 to $3 f.o.b. shipping points.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.75 for the top; bulk $11.60 to $12.20. Beef steers choice $11 to $12.35; heifers, good and choice $7.75 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.40 to $8.50; canner and cutter $3.65 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $5.50 to $8.50; stocker and feeder steers common to choice $6 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $14.50 to $16.50; yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14; fat ewes, common to choice $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 45 1/4 to 45 1/2¢; Chicago 43¢; Philadelphia 46 1/2¢; Boston 46¢.

Grain prices quoted January 7: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.73 to $1.88. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.94; Kansas City $1.87 1/2. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.86; Kansas City $1.80. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 72 to 75¢; Kansas City 76 1/2¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 79 to 83¢; St. Louis 76 1/2¢; Kansas City 77 1/2¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 77¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 38 1/2¢; St. Louis 44 1/2¢; Kansas City 43 1/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 1 point, closing at 19.89¢ per lb. New York January future contracts advanced 8 points, closing at 20.13¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 7,	Jan. 6,	Jan. 7, 1925.
20 Industrials	158.93	158.00	121.18
20 R.R. stocks	113.12	112.45	100.35

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 8.).

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 7 Section 1 January 9, 1926.

CORN GROWERS ASK AID — An Associated Press dispatch from Des Moines to-day states that legislative aid from Congress for corn growers was urged yesterday in a resolution adopted by a committee named earlier in the day at a meeting of Iowa's committee of 50 business men and farmers named to work for rehabilitation of agriculture. The committee received a recommendation from Governor Hamill that creation of a Federal agricultural board be made one of the chief objects of the movement. The Governor urged that steps be taken to increase the consumption of corn products, corn sugar in particular.

THE PRESIDENT OPPOSES RUBBER LOAN — The press to-day states that President Coolidge is opposed to the adoption by Congress of any plan that contemplates the expenditure of Government money for the establishment of a crude rubber industry in the Philippine Islands. His attitude toward proposals that the United States should protect itself against restrictions on the shipment of rubber imposed by Government "controls" abroad by building up a rubber industry of its own, in cooperation with private capital, was made known authoritatively by administration officials who discussed the subject yesterday. The President believes that agencies can be devised to assure American manufacturers adequate supplies of rubber that at present must be obtained abroad, other than by a system involving direct or indirect appropriations from the Treasury.

Charles E. Seger, president of the United States Rubber Company, told the House investigating committee yesterday that speculation and interference by the British Government with economic laws has caused the high price of rubber.

TOBACCO COMPANIES EXONERATED — The American Tobacco Company and the Imperial Tobacco Company, of Great Britain, were declared not responsible for the "difficulties" of the organized tobacco growers in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, in a report submitted to the Senate yesterday by the Federal Trade Commission. The report, which was compiled by direction of a resolution introduced by Senator Ernst, inquiring whether the two companies had any interrelation or were fighting the cooperative marketing association declared no evidence had been found "of illegal agreements, combinations or conspiracies" between them in the buying and selling of tobacco. On the other hand, criticism was directed at some of the methods of the Tri-State Tobacco Growers' Association, an organization of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina growers of certain types of tobacco, with headquarters at Richmond, Va., which, the report stated, had largely brought about the Senate request for an investigation. (Press, Jan. 9.)

CORN SUGAR LEGISLATION — Before the Senate manufactures committee January 7, Senator Cummins urged the amendment of the Pure Food Law so that corn sugar will not be held as an adulterant. Later the committee approved the Cummins bill to give corn a legal equality with cane sugar. (Press, Jan. 8.)

Section 2

Agricultural Relief Plans

An editorial in Chicago Drovers Journal for January 6 says: "It is a rare day that a new plan of farm relief does not put in an appearance. The fact that so many new plans are projected is about all the evidence needed that nothing entirely satisfactory has as yet been evolved. In the meantime, the demand for some kind of a farm relief program seems to be increasing, judging by meetings held, speeches made, resolutions passed, and so on. Is there a farm surplus problem in need of artificial solution? If we believe at all in the operation of the law of supply and demand we must admit that there has been a farm surplus problem during the past five years. During that period farmers have not done as well as other classes of workers in this country. The reason has been that the supply of farm products, as a whole, has been greater than the domestic demand, resulting in an agricultural price level directly influenced by world markets. The question is how long this condition will obtain. Those who think about such things realize, and admit, that such a condition must inevitably cure itself by the operation of natural laws, if given time. Its solution lies in the drift toward those industries and employments most attractive as measured in dollars. Will that process take too many years before American agriculture finds itself in a satisfactory position? How long will it take? We don't think anybody knows. One guess is pretty much as good as another. Yet we should not forget that these laws have been in operation for five years, in agriculture, and that progress already made toward a balance in production is plainly evident. Further than that, buying capacity on the consumer side shows steady improvement as European governments and industries become more stable. Shall agriculture wait on further readjustment through natural processes, or shall it proceed to take what all must admit to be a risky venture in price and production control? The latter involves problems so complicated, so elusive, so contentious, that consideration of any control program is likely to be long drawn out, even if non-partisan, which it can't hope to be. And so, perhaps, it may be that in the meantime changes will take place giving the entire matter quite a different aspect. It often works that way. We think the discussion now going on is a good thing. We think there are two sides to the question. And whether or not Congress passes a relief measure we are all going to learn some lessons about both economic and man-made laws."

Corn Surplus

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for January 3ssays: "Corn, as a staple farm product, is of enormous benefit and value; it, also, can be used to cause trouble. Just now it is causing much of trouble for the corn growers in the Middle West, and efforts are being made to shift it to Washington, there to seek relief through legislation.... Suppose Congress, in the goodness of heart, this year gives the Iowa corn growers, and those of other States, the relief for which they are making such insistent demands, and that next year, or even before, the growers of some other crop demand similar relief -- all those afflicted, however, learning no lesson in production, repeating their overproduction plan and methods? Where is the so-called relief thing going to end? One party may be voted out of power and another installed. But will the doing of that make the growing of corn, or of any other farm crop, any more profitable to the producers? Can the law of supply and demand be declared null and void by legislative enactment, or by governmental edit? Without doubt the corn growers, in the Middle West particularly, are hard hit. They are to be pitied, of course, but

pitying them will not put any money into their pockets, as is their desire. What the corn growers need most of all, and what farmers generally need, is not legislation, so much as they need to study and apply orderly production and marketing of their crops. Haphazard methods have been employed for years, and centuries. There has been some improvement, but not enough. There has been too little of attention given to probable consumption to market conditions, and too much of attention given to political manipulation, which rarely benefits the farmers, practically and profitably....."

Farmers' Buying Power

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 8 says: "Notwithstanding the fact that grain crops are officially estimated at $708,000,000 less than a year ago, the purchasing power of the farmers this year should astound the country. In fact, the biggest buying market since 1920 is now appearing. The farmers' income is actually larger than at any time in the past five years, and a period of continued prosperity is to be seen for several years yet to come. Our total cultivated crop production is estimated at $9,615,000,000, against $10,062,000,000 a year ago. The deficit of $447,000,000 was principally caused by wheat, cotton and oats. The official estimate goes still further and separates the grain crops from all others, making for these a total value on December 1 of $3,810,713,000, compared, with $4,518,716,000 the year before, the principal deficit being in corn and amounting to $314,238,000. If taken without any analysis, these figures would justify a highly pessimistic interpretation. About 80% of the corn crop is fed on the farms, and therefore is raw material for animal products. On December 1, 1924, cash corn was $1.09 a bushel, and the average price of hogs was $8.50 per hundred pounds. On the usual basis of 11 bushels of corn to 100 pounds of live pork, the farmers were feeding at a loss. On December 1, 1925, cash corn was worth 66 cents and hogs $11.15 per hundred pounds. The same ratio of 11 to 1 would mean $7.25 worth of corn in a hog selling for $11.15, or more than a dollar a bushel. Sheep and lambs are somewhat higher than last year, and their numbers have increased. Cattle also show an improvement, and there are as many as a year ago. The corn belt farmers surely are getting good prices for their corn when sold in animal products. Our corn crop is large enough for all needs, but when sold as grain is relatively cheap. Ever since last July, when its staff correspondent showed the failure of the winter wheat crop, this newspaper has been pointing out that our wheat market must be on a domestic basis. That fact is beginning to appear now. Advances in the wheat market are likely to have an effect upon corn, and it is not at all improbable that before spring corn will sell even higher than now. Agriculture has traveled a cycle of five years duration, and is now on the upgrade. Unless some unforeseen industrial depression occurs, it is likely to continue upward for some time to come. As the rural population consumes 40 per cent of our production, the stage is set for a great buying movement to make up for the unfilled needs of the past five years."

Florida's Crops

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for January 5 says: "Florida soil, derided by those who do not know, annually produces enormous wealth--not from any one source, but from various sources, as of fruits and vegetables, and staple crops. In the season now passing the agricultural and horticultural production is of gratifying bounty, the increase in crop values being in the millions of dollars. Thus,

in the matter of fruit crops, growers will receive 'almost twice the value' compared with what was received in the preceding season, according to the report made by Agricultural Statistician Fleming on December 30, 1925. Mr. Fleming makes a very pleasing report of Florida crop conditions for the year just ended. Increase in money returns is noted all along the line, practically. He says: 'Cotton growers made the heaviests yields that have been produced in many years, and production is more than double that of last year. Sugar cane, potatoes and other crops have shown fairly good yields and increased production. Growers of bright flue cured tobacco, a comparatively new crop in the State, are well pleased, and will, very likely, plant on a larger scale next season. The principal staple crops are worth over a million and a half dollars more than the same crops in 1924.' The staple crops to which Statistician Fleming refers, include corn, cotton, hay, oats, peanuts, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes and tobacco. Under 'truck crops' are listed an even dozen of vegetable varieties, including beans, cabbage, canteloupes, watermelons, celery, and so forth. These crops, for the year 1925, are estimated as worth, to the growers, the very considerable sum of $59,940,000. Principal crops of Florida, for the past year, are estimated as of a value aggregating $103,850,000, an increase of over seventeen million dollars in the 1925 year. Grapefruit and oranges alone, the season's crop estimated at around seventeen million boxes, are likely to bring the growers a total of $43,700,000, as compared with $23,000,000 received for the 1924 crop of more than nineteen million boxes. Shipped fruit only is included in these estimates. The value of grapefruit and oranges sold locally brings the aggregate amount of receipts from this source to considerably more than the amount given above. But with $43,000,000 received from this one source alone, Florida citrus fruit growers are doing exceedingly well."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

Dixon Merritt is the author of an interestingly written article on the work of the department in The Outlook for January 6. Mr. Merritt emphasizes the connection of the various bureaus with the Office of the Secretary, and has entitled his narrative "The Hook-Up." He says in part: "Despite a pretty general notion clear to the contrary, the Department of Agriculture is probably the most powerful department in Washington, the one that can do the most good when it goes right, the one that could do the most harm if it ever should go wrong. Certainly it is the one closest in touch with the greatest number of people-not farmers and farm families merely, but all classes of people, for not an inch more than half its work has to do directly with agriculture. ... Here is, perhaps, the most colossal aggregation in the whole world of governmental machinery engineered by a single man. There are other machines as big, but they are single machines, their wheels revolving for the most part in the same direction. This is a collection of machines designed for a diversity of work, but all hooked up with the office of the Secretary of Agriculture, all stopped and started and speeded up and slowed down by a single hand. If there is a job in the Government that by the stupendous proportions of it ought to work a man to death, that job is the Secretaryship of Agriculture. Yet truthful men who are in intimate touch with him vouch for the fact that Secretary Jardine does not sign, on the average, more than ten letters a day. The mail from the Department of Agriculture bulks so large as to have been for years the despair of the postal service, as to have inspired in the minds of Congressmen and others plans for revoking the franking privilege

and by some means making the department pay the postage on its letters. Almost innumerable letters touching the work of all of the twenty-two bureaus are addressed to the Secretary. In the article of this series treating of the work of the White House mention was made of the great flood of letters addressed to the President but shunted out through the various chutes to the executive departments. Perhaps a fifth of all these letters are shunted to the Secretary of Agriculture. And he writes or, at least, signs--tensletters a day. This astounding economy of executive energy is possible because there is a double hook-up between the bureaus and the Secretary...."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Jan. 8: Chicago hog prices, closed at $12.85 for the top; beef steers choice $11 to $12.25; heifers, good and choice $7.75 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.50 to $8.50; canners and cutters $3.65 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $5.50 to $8.50; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $5.50 to $9; fat lambs $14.25 to $16.25; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.50 to $13.75; fat ewes, common to choice $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.25.

New York sacked Round Whites $4.50 to $4.75 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Maryland and Delaware yellow varieties of sweet potatoes $2.25 to $2.65 per bushel hamper in eastern markets. New Jersey yellows down 50¢ in New York City at $2.75 to $3. Most sales of New York Danish type cabbage ranged $55 to $65 bulk per ton in consuming centers and $45 to $48 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples firm at $4 to $5 per barrel in leading markets; common storage stock $3.60 to $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. Rhode Island Greenings sold mostly around $5 to $5.50 per barrel in city markets.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 44 1/2¢; Chicago 43¢; Philadelphia 45 1/2¢; Boston 45 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted January 8: No.2 red winter Chicago $1.88 1/2; St. Louis $1.95; Kansas City $1.86. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.86; Kansas City $1.77 to $1.82. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 73 to 76¢; Kansas City 76 1/2¢. No.4 mixed corn Chicago 76 3/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 80 to 84¢; St. Louis 78 1/4¢; Kansas City 77 1/2¢. No.3 white corn St. Louis 76 1/2¢; Kansas City 77 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 39¢; St. Louis 44 3/4¢; Kansas City 44 1/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 9 designated spot markets advanced 1 point, closing at 19.90¢ per lb. New York January future contracts advanced 14 points, closing at 20.27¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 8,	Jan. 7,	Jan. 8, 1925
	20 Industrials	158.76	158.93	121.61
	20 R.R. stocks	112.45	113.12	100.19

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 9.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 8 Section 1 January 11, 1926.

IOWA CORN CONFERENCE CALLED — A Des Moines dispatch to the press of January 10 states that governors, secretaries of departments of agriculture, heads of agricultural colleges, presidents of farm, labor, manufacturers' and bankers' organizations in eleven States in the corn area were invited January 9 to attend an agricultural marketing conference at Des Moines Thursday, January 28. Executives of Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Nebraska were invited by Gov. John Hamill of Iowa. "To work out some practical and successful market plan for our farm products and to put agricultural business on a money marketing parity with other lines of industry" is the object of the conference. The meeting is expected to form a "sane, practical, sound and constructive farm marketing plan," on which all the representatives can unite.

BAKING MERGER SITUATION — The Department of Justice is conducting an investigation to determine whether there is in existence any combination of baking companies which is restraining trade in violation of Federal antitrust laws. Despite denials of a merger of the Continental, Ward and General Baking Companies, Federal investigators are looking into aspects of such a project to ascertain what would be the economic effect of a consolidation of this magnitude. The department desires, through a canvass of conditions in most of the larger eastern cities, to satisfy itself whether an actual monopoly in the baking industry is possible. (Press, Jan. 11.)

TAX LEGISLATION — Cuts of $500,000,000 in present taxes were pledged by Democrats of the Senate finance committee last night in a program whereby they seek to increase the tax reduction of $325,736,000 already provided in the revenue bill which is to be reported by Thursday. (Press, Jan. 11.)

RUBBER PRODUCTION — An Akron, Ohio, dispatch to the press of January 10 states that Akron's leading rubber manufacturers are expecting concerted action to day at the annual meeting of the Rubber Association of America in New York, to bring about the establishment of American rubber plantations in the Philippines or Sumatra. Plans will be advanced involving the expenditure of $10,000,000 annually for the next five years to insure the production of raw rubber by American interests.

FLORIDA EMBARGO — A Tallahassee dispatch to the press to-day states that the Florida railroad commission was advised by the American Railway Express Co. January 9 that the embargo will be modified by raising the rate of single pieces from 100 to 200 pounds. A further modification will be made as soon as conditions permit, it was stated.

Section 2

Aroostook Potato Profits — A Houlton, Me., dispatch to the press of December 9 states that Aroostook County potato farmers are talking in terms of millions to-day for the first time in five years. If the central market holds, the value of last year's crop from the "world's potato centre" will be well in excess of $40,000,000. The Aroostook farmer will not get rich, but he will pay a good part of his fertilizer and local bank indebtedness.

French Potash — During the third quarter of the year 1925 France's production of potash totaled 75,062 tons of pure potash as against 64,138 tons for the preceding quarter and 64,384 for the corresponding quarter in 1924. Exports show a marked increase when compared to the preceding quarter. (Bankers Trust Co., Jan. 9.)

Milk Plant Merger — A Toledo, Ohio, dispatch to the press of January 5 says: "The National Dairy Company of Toledo, with plants in Morenci, Pioneer, Camden and Seneca, Mich., Butler and Wolcotteville, Ind., yesterday became a part of a merger of milk plants under the title of the United Milk Products Corporation, a $50,000,000 company, it was announced here."

Monopolies — An editorial in The Washington Post of January 8 says: "The corn farmers of Iowa own automobiles and drink coffee. They are being exploited by foreign rubber and coffee monopolies. These monopolies are price-fixing restrictions upon exports from the producing countries, supported by the governments. Congress and the Executive departments are now inquiring into ways and means of checkmating these foreign monopolies. At the same time, the corn farmers are demanding that the United States shall set up substantially the same kind of monopoly in behalf of corn. They demand that the Government shall establish a revolving fund with which to finance the exports of corn. The plan is to restrict exports and boost prices to foreign consumers. If it is a vicious thing for foreign governments to go into the business of monopolizing exports, it is a vicious thing for the United States Government to go into the business of monopolizing exports. Americans can beat the foreign monopolies if they will pursue the right course. They should not make the blunder of drawing their government into business. The evils resulting from such a course would be greater than the evils now existing."

Price Fixing — An editorial in the Stanley (Wis.) Republican for January 1 says: "There is always a poor crop of something in this country and the farmers who are dependent on that crop are dissatisfied and want the Government to do something about it. There is always a big crop of something somewhere which has the effect of depressing the price and the farmers who grow this crop are likewise unhappy and want the Government to do something about it. This doing something for the farmer has gotten to be a popular pastime....About all Congress has attempted to do for any industry is to protect its home market. With this protection, the manufacturing industries are able to get together and restrict their output in order to keep up the price. They deem it better to make a good profit on a small output, than little or no profit on a large output. This is what President Coolidge wants the farmers to do. He wants them to cooperate in a marketing organization and pledges them the support of the Government in such efforts as they

make along this line. But there are economists who tell the farmer that this is not necessary, that the Government should buy all the farmer's surplus and leave just enough to supply the home market at whatever price the farmers choose to ask. This would be good for the farmer but it would be hard on the people who have to buy the farmer's products. It would also be hard on the tax payers who have to provide the funds to support the Government's financial operations. Once the price of farm products is stabilized and the law of supply and demand is made ineffective, we may expect a greatly increased production of everything and the whole scheme would fall of its own weight. for obviously the farmers of this country could produce several times as much as they are producing at present if they could be assured of a margin of profit every year and no Government on earth could provide funds to buy the surplus. The worst thing about the whole plan is that which President Coolidge touched upon in his Chicago speech, political price fixing....Such organizations as the wool pool, the tobacco pool and the fruit growers of California have pointed the way to successful marketing, founded on right economic principles. Somebody might profit temporarily by defying the natural laws of trade but it would be sure to lead to disaster which would lose to the farmers much of the public sympathy and cooperation which they are now receiving from the great consuming class on whom they depend for a market and for assistance at the polls."

Rubber Industry Commerce Monthly (New York) for January contains an extensive article on the rubber industry and rubber supplies. It says in part: "With an automobile for every six persons in the United States and an amazing expansion going on in the world's automotive industry, widespread interest has attached to the spectacular rise of rubber prices during the past year. Rubber consumption in the United States is nearly three times that of the rest of the world and all of the rubber used is imported, most of it from British and Dutch possessions in the Far East. Popular attention therefore has centered mainly on the system of control of exports from British colonies, which has restricted supplies therefrom since the latter part of 1922. Of perhaps even greater importance has been the heavily increased consumption of rubber, especially in the United States, at a rate of growth which seems likely to press on available supplies in the next few years. Fifteen years ago American requirements of rubber were about 40,000 tons annually; they are now almost ten times that amount. The astounding production of motor cars in the past decade; the increasing use of motor trucks and buses which require more tires as well as heavier and larger ones than passenger cars; the rapidly growing popularity of balloon tires which consume about one-third more rubber than high-pressure tires; the development of the electrical industry, an important consumer of rubber; the widening use of rubber for other articles; these explain why demand is crowding upon production. World consumption of crude rubber in 1924 was at the rate of 40,000 tons a month, an increase over 1923 of nearly 5 per cent. It is estimated that 1925 will show a monthly consumption rate of at least 46,000 tons. Should this rate continue in 1926, requirements will absorb about 550,000 tons. Full production in that year would total about 600,000 tons, leaving only 50,000 tons to augment world stocks. At the end of November 1925 stocks were estimated at 118,000 tons, less than three months' supply; normal stocks are approximately six months' requirements. The outlook for the next few years is, therefore, of more importance than the recent pinch in rubber."

Stock Market "The Great Bull Market of 1925" is the subject of a lengthy review of the situation by Leonard P. Ayres, vice president of the Cleveland Trust Company, in the American Review of Reviews for January. In this Colonel Ayres says: "There are two fundamental reasons for the present phenomenal bull market. The first and more important is that we have in this country an ample and even excessive supply of cheap credit resulting from the great gold imports that have been coming from Europe duringthe past five years. The other reason is that general business is good and its prospects are bright. The fact is that prosperity is here. Wages are high, and advancing. Employment is large, and expanding. The cost of living has increased less rapidly than wage payments. Agriculture has had a good year. These conditions, when they are generally present in most parts of this country, as they are now, constitute national prosperity....The probabilities are that interest rates will rise gradually during most of 1926, and that bond prices will decline somewhat, but after that movement comes to an end the effect of the existing surplus of money and credit in this country will probably be to decrease our prevailing interest rates, and as a result to bring about a long and important increase in bond prices."

Tropical Tree Study A New Haven, Conn., dispatch to the press of January 6 states that Samuel J. Record, Professor of Forest Products in Yale University, sailed January 5 for Central America and Southern Mexico where he will make a study of trees and forest resources as a part of the tropical forestry program of the Yale School of Forestry. His work in Central America will be carried on in cooperation with officials of the United Fruit Company and the Chicle Production Company, Inc., of New York City.

Women's Industrial Conference The problems of the married woman who works to help support her family will be one of the chief topics to be discussed at the Women's Industrial Conference, to be held in Washington January 18 to 21, under the auspices of the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor. Secretary of Labor Davis in his opening address on "Women Workers and the American Home" will outline some of the personal and social facts connected with the employment of married women. At later sessions of the conference, when health problems and social problems are discussed in detail, and when representatives of the wage-earning women, the consumer, business, the church, and the State and National Governments speak the conditions under which nearly two million married women are working will be brought out. The conference is being held to consider the current industrial situation in its relation to women workers.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture The New York press of January 8 says: "The arbitrary power exercised by the United States Horticultural Board may possibly result in retaliatory measures against the United States by foreign governments, according to Alexander P. Moore, retiring Ambassador to Madrid, who returned to the United States January 7. The action of the Horticultural Board in placing an embargo on importations of grapes and oranges had created vigorous protests in Spain, according to Mr. Moore. He pointed out that these two products are the major exports from Spain to this country, and that the embargo has resulted in considerable hardship upon Spanish fruit growers."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended January 9: Grain market irregular. Wheat futures showing easier trend account of slow export business. European dealers apparently buying from hand to mouth. Fair demand for cash wheat in spite of dull flour trade. Corn futures practically steady for week but cash corn slightly firmer with demand absorbing moderate offerings. Oats holding steady with corn.

Potatoes generally firm. New York sacked Round Whites $4.50 to $4.75 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern stock $4.05 to $4.25 on the Chicago carlot markets; $3.85 to $4.20 f.o.b. Cabbage markets strong. New York Danish type ranged from $55 to $75 bulk per ton in consuming centers and $47 to $50 f.o.b. Rochester. Apple markets dull. New York Baldwins closed at $4 to $5 per barrel in city wholesale markets. Common storage stock $3.50 to $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. Onions firm. New York and midwestern yellow varieties $2.50 to $3.25 sacked per 100 pounds in leading city wholesale markets; $2.50 to $3 f.o.b. shipping points.

Receipts of livestock at seven important middlewestern markets Jan. 9 were 2,350 cattle, 750 calves, 58,500 hogs and 6,350 sheep and lambs, compared with 2,550 cattle, 475 calves, 50,700 hogs and 7,950 sheep and lambs a year. Hog prices ranged higher early in the week, advances ranging from 50¢ to $1 being registered, during the week but the market closed at prices about steady with last Saturday. Light and handyweight fed steers showed gains of 15 to 25¢ compared with last week's prices with weighty steers around 10 to 15¢ lower. Stockers and feeders and fat heifers 15 to 25¢ up; vealers 75¢ to $1 lower. Fat cows firm at last week's prices.

Hay market turning generally firmer in spite of weakness at New York and Boston. Trading more active after holidays and colder weather estimating demand. Timothy and prairie steady. Alfalfa prices working higher. Quoted Jan. 9: No.1 timothy - Boston $25.50; New York $28.50; Pittsburgh $27.50; Cincinnati $26.50; Chicago $24.50; St. Louis $27.50; Kansas City $19.50; Memphis $28. No.1 alfalfa Kansas City $22; Omaha $19.50; Memphis $30. No.1 prairie Kansas City $14.25; Omaha $15; Chicago $18; St. Louis $18; Minneapolis $16. Feed market has developed easier tone as demand continues dull.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 44¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 45¢; Boston 45¢.

Cheese markets were quiet and steady with prices at primary markets unchanged except for 1/4¢ advance on Daisies, and those at distributing markets slightly higher in some cases. Wholesale prices at Wisconsin primary markets January 8, : Single Daisies 24 1/2¢; Double Daisies 24 1/4¢; Longhorns 24 3/4¢; Square Prints 25 1/2¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 16 points during the week, closing at 19.85¢ per lb. New York January future contracts advanced 17 points, closing at 20.13¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 9,	Jan. 8,	Jan. 9, 1925
20 Industrials	159.00	158.76	122.32
20 R.R. stocks	112.31	112.45	100.78

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 11.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 9 Section 1 January 12, 1926.

FARM RELIEF DELEGATES GATHER From almost every quarter of the country, but principally from the West and South, farmers and farm organizations' agents were gathering in Washington yesterday, intent upon requiring the administration and Congress to "fish or cut bait" on the question of farm relief. Every train brought dozens of representatives of agricultural organizations for the national conferences of cooperatives which opens to-day. At the same time came former Gov. Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois, potential corn and wheat belt candidate for the Republican nomination for President in 1928; Samuel Thompson, new president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and two score editors of farm journals invited to discuss with Secretary of Agriculture Jardine to-day the question of such control of the export surplus as will enhance the price of farm products on the market. It transpired that there is virtual unanimity of support among these delegates for the administration bill providing machinery for the perfection of cooperative marketing. And at a meeting of the House agricultural committee to hear arguments on the bill, so little opposition developed that the measure is scheduled to be favorably reported for passage without delay. Marked division of opinion among the farm organization representatives and the farm editors developed on the export control question, and it became apparent that this measure will encounter hard sledding in Congress. The farm bloc leaders intend to do their utmost to get some kind of an export surplus bill through but few of them expect success at this session....For the first time since the war the administration possesses a majority of the House agricultural committee, and is in a position to obtain a favorable report on any export surplus bill the President gets behind. But even then there would be no assurance of either house passing the bill, unless the farm organizations get behind it. (Press, Jan. 12.)

BUREAU FOR COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS Before the House Agricultural committee Secretary Jardine yesterday urged an appropriation of $225,000 to establish a special bureau to promote cooperative organizations. (Press, Jan. 12.)

EXPORT COMMISSION FOR SURPLUS PRODUCTS Mr. Rainey, Illinois, introduced in the House yesterday a bill to create an export commission to handle sale of surplus farm products. (Press, Jan. 12.)

RUBBER PRODUCTION UNDER AMERICAN CONTROL An Associated Press dispatch from New York to-day says: "A detailed plan for production under American control of the bulk of the crude rubber needed by the United States will be considered today by the board of directors of the Rubber Association of America. The subject was broached yesterday at the regular meeting of the board and, after extended discussion, was put over until the next session when proponents of the program were to be prepared to submit fairly comprehensive data on area, scope and cost of the undertaking. While none of those participating would comment last night, it was learned that Sumatra and the Philippines, among other sites, were under consideration for plantations."

Section 2

Agricultural Export Association

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 11 says: "Are the American people willing to face a period of higher prices, increased cost of living, demands for wage increases, protracted struggles for a new division of the product of industry, and possibly involve themselves in international complications? There seems little doubt that these items are a part of the price they would pay for the operation of the proposed agricultural export corporation. Will they pay the price? Vice President Dawes promoted a debate on the question, between Sir Josiah Stamp and two Americans from the Middle West. The latter, advocating an export corporation, hold that by dumping surplus wheat abroad the domestic market will be raised 40 cents a bushel. Labor and industry, they claim, will be able to absorb this increase in price. Sir Josiah Stamp readily admits that by this plan the price of wheat could be advanced in the home market, but he points out serious consequences that would result from the operation of the plan....The McNary-Haugen bill has been laid in its political grave, but its spirit stalks through the halls of Congress, called back by agricultural discontent in the West. That discontent is becoming politically articulate and will not, neither indeed should it be, ignored. Whether political expediency or sound economics shall prevail in Congress is a matter of importance to the farmers themselves as well as the country in general...It is not by this but by some other way that the capital and labor of the farmer is to secure a return fair and reasonable in comparison with that secured in other spheres."

Corn Belt Conditions

Dixon Merritt is the author of an article entitled "The Storm in the Corn Belt," in The Outlook for January 13. Mr. Merritt says in part: "The question is, Why are farmers dissatisfied? The answer is, Farmers are dissatisfied because they are not making money. Having made a categorical answer to a catechetical question, I may be permitted to explain in some detail. The fact that farmers are dissatisfied is not, I suppose, questioned by anybody. We may as well--indeed, better a long sight--admit at the outset that the dissatisfaction has been considerably fomented by demagogues. But it genuinely exists, and would genuinely have existed if there had been no demagogues. It subsided appreciably with the return of fairly good times, or of what the farmers were told were fairly good times, and which seemed so to them because of prices somewhat higher. But within the past few weeks it has flamed up again angrily, particularly in that great producing region stretching from the eastern border of Ohio to the foot of the Rocky Mountains. It has flamed, too, in other producing sections, but not so fiercely. Farmers have found out that, for them, there has not been a return of good times. They have found that prices are not actually higher, though they receive somewhat more money for the things they sell. The price ratio between what they have to sell and what they have to buy is still against them, and more markedly so this year than it was last year. They can buy a little more of what they need with some of their products--with butter, for instance. But they can buy less with others of their products--with, for instance, eggs. So it goes through the whole list. The composite price of what the farmer consumes has gone up, and while the composite price of what he produces has gone up a little too, it has not gone up enough to hold his purchasing power where it was a year ago, when it seemed just to have begun a slow recovery from a five-year slump. The farmer is still not making money, and the farmer therefore still is

dissatisfied--more intensely dissatisfied than before, not only because of hope deferred, but because of hope snatched from him when he thought it was realized."

Freight on Dairy Products

An editorial in New England Homestead for December 26 says: "Considering Vermont as one big farm, its owners are paying something like $4,000,000 annually to the railroads for freight on dairy products, mostly as milk or cream, as revealed in The Homestead last week. Suppose that two-thirds of the fluid milk and cream now transported by rail were manufactured into butter and cheese, the whole to move to market by rail. This might leave in the pockets of Vermont dairymen $2,000,000 of the money they now pay yearly to the railroad for freight. If all of Vermont dairy products went into a properly organized and well conducted New England pool, Vermont dairymen would stand to net as much or more money per unit, also as a total for the year, as they have ever been able to obtain under the present system. Not only should they thus net as much or more cash for their dairy products, but in addition thereto they should retain for themselves this saving in freight of something like $2,000,000 a year. Such saving works out as equal to about $7 per cow and around $70 per farm. In other words, the proposed New England dairy pool or system should leave a lot of money in Vermont farmers' pockets which they now pay out in freight upon the water in their milk...."

San Francisco Mercantile Exchange

An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for December 24 says: "The San Francisco Mercantile Exchange, which started operations in the local dairy produce and egg market last Monday, comes into existence under auspicious circumstances. In fact, we have no doubt but that its sponsors fully realize that it has a big order on its hands and if it can bring order out of the present chaos it will indeed be making a good start. In several issues recently the review has referred to the local situation, particularly in the butter trade. In a word, it might be said that the market has been 'shot to pieces.'....That the dairy business in California is failing to expand in keeping with the demand upon it is well recognized, but it will not forge ahead under conditions that are bringing out nothing but complaint from producers. Herein lies the opportunity for the new exchange. If it brings harmony, service and cooperation in the trade, and if it establishes prices in keeping with conditions it will justify existence and win favor from producers. It is, as we see it, not only an organization in the interest of the butter trade but also one that is expected to render a service to producers of dairy products and eggs in the western halfcof the United States. Their eyes will be found on it....."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

1

An editorial in The West Virginia Times-Record for December 31 says: "Establishing a division of cooperative marketing in the Department of Agriculture will be variously regarded by millions of our farmers.... Whatever may be the plan in mind, however, it is almost certain to be discussed in Congress. Let us hope it will. Only by open attack and counter attack can the facts be brought clearly to mind. The issue is too vital to be decided on snap judgment. Government aid to stabilize prices that does not smack of special legislation and open subsidy to govern prices may be quite beneficial."

Department of Agriculture 2

Florida Times-Union for January 7 says: "Bulb growers in Florida are expressing gratification at the order of the United States Department of Agriculture placing an embargo upon the importation of foreign produced bulbs. Although a large volume of comment on the subject also has been published by Florida newspapers it is not generally understood what the embargo means to Florida, says the Florida State Chamber of Commerce. The exclusion order, according to the State chamber, assures a new industry for the State, an industry in which more than $250,000 already has been invested and which is expanding rapidly....With the country importing nearly $7,000,000 worth of bulbs in 1925 the State chamber of commerce declares that the industry now being established here will bring millions of dollars to Florida annually because the foreign source of supply has been cut off and with the exception of small supplies elsewhere in the United States the country must depend upon Florida for the bulk."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

January 11: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.15 for the top, bulk of sales $11.10 to $11.90. Beef steers choice $10.75 to $12; heifers, good and choice $7.50 to $10.65, cows, good and choice $6.35 to $8.40; canner and cutter $3.65 to $4.50; vealers medium to choice, $10 to $13.50; heavy calves medium to choice $5.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $6 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $14 to $16; yearling wethers, medium to choice $14 to $16; fat ewes, common to choice $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.

New York sacked Round White potatoes $4.50 to $4.85 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples steady at $4 to $4.75 per barrel in leading markets. New York Danish type cabbage advanced $5 to $10 in eastern cities to $55 to $65 bulk per ton and sold mostly $50 f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland yellow varieties of sweet potatoes $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls $1.85 to $2 in midwestern cities.

Grain prices quoted Jan.11: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.72 to $1.85. No.2 red winter St.Louis $1.95 1/2; Kansas City $1.84. No.2 hard winter St.Louis $1.84 1/2; Kansas City $1.75 to $1.82. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 73 to 76¢; Kansas City 77¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 80 to 83¢; Kansas City 75 to 78¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 77 3/4¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 39 1/4¢; St. Louis 44 1/4¢; Kansas City 43 1/2¢.

Closing prices on 93 score butter: New York 44¢; Chicago 42 1/4¢; Philadelphia 45¢; Boston 45¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 5 points, closing at 19.80¢ per lb. New York March future contracts declined 10 points, closing at 19.80¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 11,	Jan. 9,	Jan. 12, 1925
	20 Industrials	157.58	153.00	122.16
	20 R.R. stocks	112.48	112.31	100.40

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 12.)

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Vol. XX, No. 10 Section 1 January 13, 1926

FARMERS CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING CONFERENCE The national council of Farmers Cooperative Marketing associations, composed of 200 delegates from all sections of the country, was split wide open yesterday on the question of controlling crop surpluses so as to increase farm product prices on the domestic market. In his opening address, Robert W. Bingham, publisher of the Louisville Courier-Journal, who is chairman of the council, condemned the present movement for surplus control legislation, arguing that the inadequate returns of agricultural producers is not due to the low price of the export surplus on the world market, but to the lack of organized selling by the farmers. He urged a thorough trial of cooperative marketing before any other remedy for the ills of the farmer is resorted to. Mr. Bingham's pronouncement was approved apparently by only a minority of the council, and last night the advocates of surplus control were busy preparing resolutions and other forms of reply to the chairman's arguments. Fearing that if the strict purpose of discussing cooperative marketing be departed from and the surplus control problem discussed, the conference would be here indefinitely, former Gov. Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois, who takes issue with Judge Bingham, counseled the delegates to attempt no resolutions on the surplus question. (Press, Jan. 13.)

FARM EDITORS MEET The editors of a score of agricultural papers met yesterday with Secretary of Agriculture Jardine to exchange views. The Secretary had invited them to Washington to discuss the surplus problem. Mr. Jardine learned in this session that the farm paper editors are divided on the Dickinson bill and other proposals for artificially enhancing farm product prices. (Press, Jan. 13.)

RUBBER CORPORATION The National Automobile Chamber of Commerce yesterday authorized the appropriation of $10,000,000 to assure the public and the motor vehicle manufacturers of adequate supplies of rubber at reasonable prices. It was decided to apply for a charter enabling the organization to produce, purchase and deal in rubber. A committee was named to take the necessary steps to organize and apply for a charter. The charter will be broad in its scope, including the authority to produce, purchase and deal in raw rubber and rubber products, as well as to manufacture automobile tires. The Rubber Association of America January 11 began the consideration of a project to promote the production abroad of rubber for American consumption to offset the British monopoly. (Press, Jan. 13.)

Secretary of Commerce Hoover, speaking last night at the annual dinner of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, indorsed yesterday's decision of the chamber to launch a $10,000,000 corporation to give America it's own rubber sources. While 1,000 leaders in the automotive industry applauded his approval, the Secretary said that British restriction of rubber production, with consequent increase in price here, left to car makers and motorists only two ways out. First, the situation might be met by diminishing the use of rubber--something already being done--or, secondly, by making this nation independent in rubber. (Press, Jan. 13.)

FORESTRY LEGISLATION Forestry experts before the Senate agriculture committee urged passage of $3,000,000 appropriation to be used jointly with State of California to fight forest fires. (Press, Jan. 13.)

Section 2

Corn Sugar — An editorial in The Prairie Farmer for January 2 says: "Corn Belt Congressmen are trying to amend the pure food law to remove restrictions which now limit the market for corn sugar....The new white corn sugar is just as pure and wholesome as cane sugar. Already it offers a market for 20,000 bushels of corn a day. The use of this sugar in canned goods, jams and jellies could be greatly increased if the present restrictions in the pure food law were removed. If one-third of the cane sugar now imported into the United States could be replaced with corn sugar, a new market for 125 million bushels of corn a year would be created. This is a practical and sensible way in which the Government can help the Corn Belt farmers."

Cotton in Argentina — An editorial in The American Weekly of Buenos Aires for December 12 says: "It is possible that Argentina may continue to grow cotton. It will be a very long time before Argentina will rank high as one of the world's important cotton producers, but cotton may become one of the important crops, with relation to other crops in Argentina, within the relatively near future. Much interest is now shown in cotton. The acreage has increased from about 50,000 acres to about 250,000 acres within two years. By improving their cultural methods and by increasing the efficiency of their harvesting, ginning and marketing methods cotton production will be very profitable in Argentina....Another reason why Argentina may continue to grow cotton is the fact that in the vast northern, undeveloped regions of the Republic, where are to be found the best opportunities for settlers, cotton is the most suitable of all crops. The Government and many private companies are putting forth great efforts to colonize this zone. The efforts are causing certain sections of the zone to become populated very rapidly. Cotton grows better than any other crop and as soon as better marketing methods are adopted cotton should pay very good profits. It is not unlikely, therefore, that before long Argentina will have a fairly firmly established cotton industry and that then the production of cotton in Argentina will gradually increase until it will be one of the most important crops of the country."

Disinfected Seed Predicted — The press of January 11 says: "In a few years only disinfected seed will be sold, or at very best seed produced under such conditions that it is virtually free from seed-borne parasites. This is the prediction of Clayton Roberts Orton, Professor of Plant Pathology at the Pennsylvania State College. Doctor Orton, who has been at work on this subject for several years and is now engaged in research along these lines at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, has been able to trace the spread of plant diseases through seed distribution in many cases. Millions of dollars will be saved annually, once the full result of this research work is made known, after its completion, he says."

Eastern Agriculture — An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for January 2 says: "Those who think that the Eastern States are unimportant from an agricultural standpoint will revise their opinion when they read the figures put out by the Atlantic States Shippers Advisory Board. The data collected show that the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia produce one-tenth of all the wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, potatoes and hay grown in the entire United States. In some of these items the percentage is much higher, for instance, this territory produces twenty-four per cent of the potatoes and fourteen per cent of the hay produced in the country...."

Underconsumption of Flour

An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for December 30 says: "'Underconsumption' is a meaningful word which has recently come into use as corollary, or, more accurately, in antithesis to the hard worked term, 'overproduction.' The latter has enjoyed a long and lamentably dishonorable career as the reason ascribed for current ills of every industry. No matter what the real ailment, 'overproduction' has been held to account, much as a physician resorts to 'general debility' when he has little or no idea of what actually is the matter with his new patient. While the words 'overproduction' and 'underconsumption' have much the same meaning, there is a difference greater than mere shading....Applied specifically to flour milling, its ever present problem undoubtedly is more accurately described by 'underconsumption' than by 'overproduction.' All of the wheat produced in the country is somewhere ground into flour, sold and consumed. Whatever part of it is not ground by American mills is so much underconsumption, or undeveloped market. This may be in the export trade, resulting from conditions beyond control of millers, or it may be in domestic use of flour as a result of conditions susceptible to correction. Estimates of the Food Research Institute show an apparent reduction of two and a quarter million barrels in the domestic consumption of wheat flour in the crop year ended last June 30. The normal growth in population should have resulted in an increase of about the same amount, so that there was a gross reduction of approximately five million barrels, or nearly five per cent of the total. Not only was there, based on these data, a decreased total consumption of wheat flour but a decrease in the amount consumed per person....It may well be that millers, instead of resting content in possession of the alibi of 'overproduction,' would do well to consider the merits of 'underconsumption,' together with its causes and possible correctives."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for January 6 says: "In the past fortnight the system of trading in grain futures has been given a test of its ability to withstand and distribute the shock of violent price influences more severe than any it has recently been called upon to bear by the evils of inordinate speculation. The present shock came from the very source which but recently, and quite properly, was most insistent upon changes in option trading machinery that would enable it more truly to reflect supply and demand conditions with less violent price reactions. In its final report on this year's wheat crop, the United States Department of Agriculture elected to make basic changes in the method of computing acreage so that, at the very time when production and domestic requirements were in closer adjustment than in many years, its estimate of available wheat is actually less than minimum domestic requirements. By a reduction of twenty-eight million bushels, the wheat crop was brought to a total of six hundred and sixty-nine million bushels, a figure but twenty-two million bushels more than the average domestic use in the past three years. With nearly sixty million bushels already exported, the revised figure indicates a statistical reduction of something like forty million bushels from last year's carryover of less than ninety millions. These figures are not here recited by way of 'bull' argument, but solely to emphasize the major importance of so great a reduction in production estimates at the precise time when there was such close relationship between supplies and requirements. It is, of course, idle to infer that the report was intentionally colored for the purpose of enhancing prices for economic advantage or political effect. It is not, however, improper to question the sound judgment of selecting just this

time to perform a major statistical operation so certain to react violently on prices. On the whole, the system of futures trading met the issue with credit to itself....Fortunately, there can be no question about the responsibility for the past fortnight's violent price movements. Not the established machinery for marketing grain crops, but the Government which supervises operation of the machinery, is wholly accountable. If there is merit in thus establishing a higher price for wheat, the credit belongs to the Government. If, on the other hand, new fault is to be found because grain prices displayed unaccustomed violence, blame must be accepted by those in authority who developed a situation bearing all the earmarks of a privately conducted bull campaign."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products January 12: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.35 for the top; bulk of sales $11.30 to $12.10. Beef steers choice $10.90 to $12; heifers, good and choice $7.50 to $10.75; cows, good and choice, $5.50 to $8.50; canner and cutters $3.65 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice $10; heavy calves, medium to choice $5.50 to $8.25; fat lambs medium to choice, $14 to $16.15; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.75 to $13.85; ewes, common to choice $5.50 to $9.25; feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.

New York Baldwin apples mostly $4 to $4.75 per barrel in leading markets. New York Danish type cabbage mostly $60 to $65 bulk per ton in distributing centers; $50 to $55 f.o.b. Rochester. New York sacked Round White potatoes $4.50 to $4.85 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Bulk Maine Green Mountains $4.70 to $5 in New York City and $4.10 to $4.15 f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York and midwestern yellow onions sold mostly at $2.75 to $3.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; $2.65 to $2.90 f.o.b..

Grain prices quoted January 12: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.72 to $1.85. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.94. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.80 1/2; St. Louis $1.83 1/2; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 72 to 76¢; No.4 mixed corn Chicago 76 to 77 1/2¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 80 to 84¢; St. Louis 80¢. No.3 white corn St. Louis 79¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 42 3/4¢; Minneapolis 39¢; St. Louis 44 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 10 points, closing at 19.90¢ per lb. New York March future contracts advanced 15 points, closing at 19.95¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 12,	Jan. 11,	Jan. 12, 1925
	20 Industrials	157.39	157.58	123.21
	20 R.R. stocks	111.92	112.48	100.47

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 13.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 11 Section 1 January 14, 1926.

FARM SURPLUS Until last night there had been nothing in the convention here of the National Council of Farmers' Cooperative Associations to challenge the attitude of the Administration toward farm problems. In all the speeches there had been only praise for the Administration's policy on cooperative marketing, and all measures which sought to deal with export surpluses were waived aside as unnecessary, visionary or worthless. Last night, however, former Governor Frank O. Lowden, Illinois, who spoke at the council's annual dinner, made the first break in the solidarity of opinion by contending the agricultural surplus was an acute problem and a method must be devised to deal with it. He said, as he had said before, that a plan devised after the manner of the Federal Reserve system might well take care of the farm surplus and even up the lean and fat years, just as the banking system had done with credits. Mr. Lowden's speech was much more in line with demands made by the farmers of the Middle West than anything that has been said at the association's meetings. (Press, Jan. 14.)

Declaring bills before Congress providing for commissions or boards to have control of supervision over surplus farm commodities were freighted with unconstitutionalities, Aaron Sapiro, representative of cooperative marketing associations, urged delegates to the fourth national cooperative marketing conference here yesterday to back up unreservedly the Haugen bill providing for a division of cooperative marketing in the Department of Agriculture....It means, for the first time, he said, that the Government is going to try to do for the distribution question as much as it has done in the past for the production end.

RUBBER SITUATION An Associated Press dispatch from New York to-day says: "The National Automobile Chamber of Commerce's special committee, appointed to form a corporation to combat the foreign rubber monopoly, yesterday decided to issue an immediate call for stock subscriptions from 102 automobile companies to incorporate the new concern at once in Delaware and to call it the American Motor Rubber Corporation. The committee also appointed a subcommittee to choose executive officers and select headquarters in New York City..... Offers of rubber plantations and properties were presented at the committee meeting Jan. 13 from Brazil, Ceylon, Old German East Africa, Colombia and Cuba."

ROADS A FACTOR IN PROSPERITY A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Good roads form one of the chief factors in American prosperity and economy in the opinion of Charles M. Schwab, Chairman of the Bethlehem Steel Company and one of the new leaders in the automobile industry. He told several thousand members of the American Road Builders' Association last night at the annual banquet in the Congress Hotel, which formed the climax of the official activities of Good Roads Week in Chicago."

CABBAGE PRICES An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago to-day says: "Whatever may be the case about rubber, Europe is trying to rescue the United States from high price cabbage. With quotations on cabbage rarely at such tip-top figures as at present, cabbage by the ton is being rushed across the Atlantic...Since Christmas cabbage has advanced $20 a ton. Unfavorable weather conditions have had much to do with the shortage."

Section 2

Central Farm Organization

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for January 12 says: "The farm organizations of New Jersey are planning to establish a central clearing house for all in the form of a headquarters at Trenton. In these days when cooperation is the key word in agricultural work there is no place needing the application of that principle more than in the farm organizations of the land. To-day we have a jumbled, heterogeneous mass of farm organizations with no common meeting place where the various interests may get together and form united action on important matters. New Jersey is making such plans and a meeting will be held during the week of the Products Show at Trenton to formulate such a cooperating movement. Federation is not proposed, but each organization will continue as at present and assist in supporting and using the new office as a common clearing house. This is a move in the right direction and if generally adopted would make it easy for officials and the public to know what farmers think and want."

Cotton Export

A New Orleans dispatch to the press of January 11 says: "While it is true that cotton exports have slowed down during the past few weeks, it is believed that the slower movement is merely temporary. Freight brokers both here and in Galveston have reported during the week that a large amount of freight room has been bocked for both January and February shipments."

Dollar Corn

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 12 says: "While professional uplifters are busily painting a drab picture of farm woe, in the corn belt, the International Harvester Company has done something practical and courageous. In effect this is the underwriting of a guaranteed minimum price of a dollar a bushel for corn at Chicago. News dispatches say that it has instructed its agents to agree that payment for purchases of new machinery and implements may be made in corn at a price equivalent to one dollar a bushel for No. 2 yellow at Chicago. If the price goes beyond that the farmer has the privilege of selling elsewhere and paying his note in cash. This practically gives the farmer a call for his corn at a dollar a bushel, whereas the cash price now is around 83 cents. The Harvester Company takes the risk of corn below the minimum price and gives the farmer the benefit if it goes above. This action of the Harvester Company is more far-reaching in its effect than appears on the face of the offer. The Middle West has been discouraged because its corn crop was larger than in 1924, when it was a failure. This season it equals average, and the price, in comparison with a year ago, is small. The Harvester Company rises above this cloud of pessimism and looks at facts. It feels sure corn is worth a dollar a bushel, and offers to take pay from its farmer customer in corn at that price. This feeling of confidence will not be lost upon the farmers or in the corn market....One practical fact stands out clearly. It is that the International Harvester Company is, to this extent, cutt cutting prices on its products."

Grain Trade Tax

An editorial in The New York Times for January 13 says: "The Supreme Court's second decision annulling the 1921 grain-trading law seems like slaying the slain, since the trade is now regulated under the act of 1922. The later law, however, did not alter the earlier section covering options, puts, calls, privileges, indemnities. This was not questioned in the earlier case holding that other sections were

invalid. The present suit arose from the Internal Revenue Bureau's collection of stamps for $200 on an option for the sale of grain....Farmers do not trade in such units and have a rooted dislike of them, thinking that such sales in some way affect the price of real grain. But it was the working of the exchanges alone that gave the farmers the opportunity of selling wheat at $2.05 last January, or more than it was worth, as was proved by the later course of the markets....The decision of the court on Monday was upon a principle broader than grain trading. The tax of 20 cents a bushel was so great that trading was virtually forbidden. Therefore the tax was a 'penalty' on trading, not a means of raising revenue, and the scheme for regulation under the guise of taxation was unlawful. Federal control over interstate commerce can not be extended to the regulation of exchanges under the pretense of taxation."

Iowa Corn Situation

A far less gloomy picture of the Iowa corn situation than has been painted by farm leaders of the Middle West was revealed to President Coolidge yesterday by C. L. Richeson of Iowa, president of the National Corn Growers' Association. Mr. Richeson declared that many of the statements concerning the so-called uprising among the corn growers of the West were ridiculous and that with reasonable assistance from the Federal Government, the farmers would be able to work out their own salvation. The Iowan pointed out that the corn growers have had a hard year and that many have lost money, "but," he declared, "their condition is by no means as desperate as pictured in Washington by some of the alarmists. I feel that conditions are improving and that the corn grower is knuckling down to business to meet his own problems in his own way," Mr. Richeson declared that the corn growers do not need Government aid in the sense advocated by the farm bloc in Congress, nor do they need Government price fixing. He scoffed at reports that the present tariff schedule would be openly attacked as a result of the recent expressions of dissension. He indicated a belief that the American farmer has too much sense to act to the disadvantage of his own interests, "as would be the case if he attacked the present tariff schedules." The actual redemption of the farmer from the present crisis, according to Mr. Richeson, can come best through his own efforts in the form of developing cooperative marketing. He told the President that he believed the Dickinson bill to be the most constructive piece of farm legislation yet introduced, and that it would be enacted into law. It is understood that Mr. Coolidge was favorably impressed with the report of Mr. Richeson and that the latter's expressions on the tariff and price fixing plans were reassuring to him. (Press, Jan. 13.)

Rubber Situation

An editorial in The Price Current-Grain Reporter for January 6 says: "The Congressional consideration of the British rubber situation in which seventy per cent of the crude stocks are consumed in the United States at prices which seem to be unfair presents, in many aspects, a close analogy to this whole subject of Government price fixing and production control. It is charged that England is curtailing the rubber production in her colonies, restriction which is akin to protection in the form of tariffs. It is probably true the world over that organized manufacturers and producers have had no hesitancy imposing prices that were just as high as the traffic would bear. When a single item such as rubber shows excess profits exacted from American manufacturers and consumers amounting to four billion dollars in six years, the enormity of the rubber trade is appreciated. Statisticians who have arrived at this

figure point out that it is approximately the amount of money due the United States on foreign war debts, reminding us of the concern displayed in many circles over the impending prospect of a great flood of cheap foreign goods which would be thrown upon the American market. It now seems that Great Britain has discovered a method of payment through extremely high priced rubber, the cost of which will quite likely be somewhat reduced at least, following the investigation now under way. Personally we hesitate to charge the English authorities with such retaliatory methods among their chief ally and proven friends."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 13: Chicago livestock quotations: Hogs, top $12.60, bulk of sales $11.50 to $12.30. Beef steers choice $10.90 to $12.25, good $9.50 to $11.25, medium $8.50 to $9.85, common $6.75 to $8.75. Heifers, good and choice $7.25 to $10.75, common and medium $6 to $8.25. Cows, good and choice $6.50 to $8.50, common and medium $4.50 to $6.50, canner and cutter $3.65 to $4.50. Vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $13.75; heavy calves medium to choice $6.25 to $9.25. Stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $6.25 to $9. Fat lambs medium to choice $14 to $16.10, yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.75 to $14, fat ewes, common to choice, $5.75 to $9.50, feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.25.

Northern sacked Round White potatoes $4.20 to $4.30 per 100 lbs. on the Chicago carlot market; $4.55 to $4.85 elsewhere and $4 to $4.25 f.o.b. New York Danish type cabbage $60 to $65 bulk per ton in leading markets and $55 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and midwestern yellow onions $2.75 to $3.25 sacked per 100 lbs. in consuming centers; $2.50 to $2.75 f.o.b. New York Baldwin apples $4 to $4.75 per bbl.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.70 to $1.83. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.93 1/2; Kansas City $1.83. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.80 1/2; St. Louis $1.83; Kansas City $1.75 to $1.80. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 73 to 76¢; Kansas City 76 1/2¢. No.4 mixed corn Chicago 76 to 78¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 79 to 83¢; St. Louis 81¢ Kansas City 76 3/4¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 77 1/2¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 43¢; Minneapolis 39 1/4¢; St. Louis 44 1/4¢; Kansas City 43 1/2¢.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 41 3/4¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 2 points, closing at 19.88¢ per lb.; New York March future contracts declined 3 points, closing at 19.92¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 13,	Jan. 12,	Jan. 13, 1925
20 Industrials	158.31	157.39	123.56
20 R.R. stocks	112.42	111.92	100.53

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 14.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 12 Section 1 January 15, 1926.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING CONFERENCE

Although three formal addresses were on the program of the fourth National Cooperative Marketing Conference, only one, that of Carl Williams, editor of the Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman, and member of the executive committee of the cooperatives' national council, was devoted to the surplus crop problem, which has split the conference into two groups. Mr. Williams argued that the solution should be left to the farmers, without Government help, a view contrary to that expressed to the conference by former Gov. Lowden of Illinois, another executive committee member. Aaron Sapiro, attorney for cooperative associations, meanwhile reiterated before the House agriculture committee the suggestion he made to the conference that the surplus problem be not linked with any cooperative marketing measure. (Press, Jan. 15)

GRAIN TRADING

The Senate agricultural committee yesterday set January 29 for a vote on the Caraway bill, to prohibit future trading in cotton and grain. (Press, Jan. 15.)

WHEAT GRADING

J. W. Branton, of St. Paul, organization director of the Minnesota Wheat Growers Cooperative association, told the House agricultural committee yesterday that Federal grading laws were placing a loss of 5 cents a bushel on wheat growers of Minnesota. Farm cooperative marketing organization officials approved the Jardine bill. (Press, Jan. 15.)

RUBBER ACREAGE

American capital would find a large acreage of available rubber producing lands in the Philippines and along the Amazon River, Dr. H. M. Whitfield, of the Crude Rubber Association of America, yesterday told the House committee investigating that subject. (Press, Jan. 15.)

An Associated Press dispatch from New York to-day says: "Further expansion of the United States Rubber Co.'s holdings of rubber growing lands in Sumatra, Dutch East Indies, was announced yesterday by C. B. Segar, president of the company. The new addition of 5,700 acres was acquired December 9, last. Negotiations are pending for other areas aggregating 12,500 acres."

SUGAR MERGERS

An Associated Press dispatch from New York to-day says: "Plans for stabilization of the sugar industry, possibly through new arrangements to finance the movement of the crop and through new groupings of some of the producing companies, were reported yesterday to be under consideration by Wall Street banking interests prominently identified with the sugar trade.... Bankers indicated that any steps for the stabilization of the industry probably would take the form of improving the position of the various companies rather than through any attempt to control price movements."

Section 2

British Farmer MMigration to Canada

An editorial in The Field (London) for December 31 says: "There is everything to be said for migration within the Empire and for the better distribution of the British race; but the latest effort to encourage this movement is open to criticism. Passages from this country to Canada are to be subsidised so as to be available at extremely low rates--all to the good, if Canada needs men--but these new facilities are restricted for the main part to agricultural workers. Actually these are the workmen whom the country can least afford to lose, for there is little or no unemployment among agricultural laborers; indeed, there is a shortage of skilled men. As Canada is short of men and keen to attract British immigrants, and Great Britain is carrying the dead weight of over a million unemployed, it is strange that more effective measures have not been taken to solve these problems in a way which would bring mutual benefits. But the latest proposal ignores the relation of these two dominant problems and merely seeks to satisfy Canada's need mainly at the expense of British agriculture. These proposals seem inadequate when Great Britain has plenty of able-bodied young men hanging about employment exchanges--not only in the cities, but also in provincial towns--unable to find work. It is these men who should be induced to cross the Atlantic, not skilled agricultural laborers with settled work on the farms of this country. There is good reason to believe that a proportion of our young unemployed would make good on the land in Canada, for most of them are fit and at an age to adapt themselves readily to new conditions and to absorb new ideas. They may lack agricultural experience, but in a new country the absence of preconceived notions and fixed methods has often proved a positive advantage. We should prefer to see Canada setting her cap at these young men, rather than at farm workers for whom there is plenty of work in this country."

Cooperatives in Nebraska

An Omaha dispatch to the press of January 12 says: "Cooperative marketing of farm products, brought to the fore by President Coolidge in his address before the American Farm Bureau Federation, already has reached a fairly high degree of organization in Nebraska. Last year between 75 per cent and 80 per cent of the Nebraska wheat crop was handled through elevators organized, owned and operated by the farmers themselves. Experts say this is one of the big reasons why Nebraska farmers are in such good financial condition that, although the Omaha Federal Intermediate Credit Bank has announced it has $50,000,000 to lend on crops, Nebraska farmers have not applied for a single dollar of this fund."

Iowa Corn Situation

Arthur D. Welton, Chicago correspondent of The Public Ledger, writing in the issue of January 12 says: "Iowa farmers, through the leaders of their organizations and their representatives in Congress may be calling loudly for relief through the formation of an export corporation or a corn bounty or a joint resolution to compel the Germanic races to eat more pork, but the same farmers, in their domestic circles, are bewailing the blow that advertisement of Iowa's distress has given to Iowa's credit and reputation. Going the rounds of the Iowa newspapers is an article written by John Thompson, editor of the Iowa Homestead. Sometimes the article appears as news matter under headlines on the front page and sometimes it is 24-point type, in which form it is a page advertisement. The standard heading is 'The Price of Corn in Iowa' and the first paragraph reads thus: 'If one were to judge the financial condition

of the Iowa farmer by reports current in the newspapers, one would be forced to the conclusion that the biggest calamity that ever happened to the farmers of Iowa was the harvesting this year of the largest corn crop ever gathered in this State...' Corn is a much more interesting crop than wheat or any of the others. It is put to a great variety of uses. At the plants of the Corn Products Company more than sixty different things are made from corn, and ensilage is not included....Mr. Thompson's estimate is that 60 per cent of Iowa corn is converted into pork, 15 per cent is sold, and that leaves 25 per cent to be fed to cattle and livestock other than hogs...Mr. Thompson says the estimates are conservative and concludes thus: 'Does this look as though the 1925 corn crop would bring less money than the 1924 crop brought? Let me reiterate that the price of hogs and cattle determines the value of the Iowa corn crop and not its cash price on the market. Iowa farmers owe their prosperity to livestock and not to cash grain prices. They are $100,000,000 better off this year, as compared with last, because hogs, cattle and sheep bring good prices, and they have plenty of corn with which to produce an abundance of pork, beef and mutton.'"

Lumber Problems An Associated Press dispatch to the press of January 12 says: "The National Lumber Manufacturers' Association issued a call for trade extension conference in Chicago February 15 and 16. The purpose will be to determine on a plan to promote use of lumber. Lumber manufacturers, it was asserted, are alarmed at the inroads of lumber substitutes, due to aggressive advertising and merchandising campaigns and have undertaken to arouse the industry to the seriousness of the situation."

Sugar Production An editorial in Commercial West for January 9 says: "Recently some enthusiastic theorist connected with the Department of Agriculture advanced an opinion that artichokes could be made to produce all the sugar the Nation requires. So seriously was this little 'choke' considered that a United States Senator from Nebraska gave it his earnest support. The artichoke as a possible sugar producer is not likely to figure largely in the commercial field....Two members of Congress from Iowa have introduced a bill in the House and in the Senate which is intended to remove the discrimination against glucose or sugar made from corn. This product has been largely used in the manufacture of cheap candy, in preserves, in making beer and other beverages. Under the pure-food law articles in which corn sugar is an ingredient must have attached a label stating such fact. Corn sugar has only about 50 per cent of the sweetness of either cane or beet sugar. There is also a chemical difference. The costs of manufacture are less. Any law which may be passed will not change the character of glucose, though may open up an avenue for wider substitution of corn sugar for that which is superior. No doubt a greater use of glucose would help dispose of surplus corn, yet it is doubtful whether the demand thus created would enhance the market price of corn. The beet sugar industry is well established in the United States. It has met with competition from Cuba, Hawaii, Germany and other sugar-producing countries. Now it is proposed that beet sugar manufacturers be annoyed and threatened with annihilation of the industry they have built up during the past fifty years by the aristocratic artichoke and the product of the corn-belt farmers."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

In an editorial on the Secretary's Annual Report, Progressive Farmer for January 9 says: "....All in all, Mr. Jardine's report is an excellent one both in subject matter and presentation. Furthermore, it gives evidence of substantial progress by the Department of Agriculture towards the solution of many problems that now sorely vex the farmers."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 14: Chicago livestock quotations: Hogs, top, $12.85, bulk $11.50 to $12.40, Beef steers choice $10.90 to $12.25, good $9.50 to $11.25, medium $8.50 to $9.75, common $6 to $8. Heifers, good and choice, $7 to $10.75, common to medium $6 to $8. Cows, good and choice, $6.35 to $8.25, common and medium, $4.50 to $6.35, canner and cutter $3.75 to $4.50. Vealers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.25 to $9.25. Stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, $6.25 to $9. Fat lambs medium to choice $13.75 to $16, yearling wether, medium to choice, $10.50 to $13.75, fat ewes, common to choice $5.75 to $9.50, feeding lambs $14.50 to $16.

Northern sacked Round White potatoes on the Chicago carlot market $4.15 to $4.30 per 100 lbs. New York sacked Round Whites ranged $4.50 to $4.85 in eastern cities and sold at $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and Midwestern onions, yellow varieties, ranged $2.50 to $3.25 in consuming centers and $2.50 to $2.75 f.o.b. New York Danish type cabbage mostly $60 to $65 bulk per ton in distributing centers; $55 to $60 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples slightly weaker in leading city markets at $4 to $4.75 per bbl.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.73 to $1.86. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.95 1/2. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.81 1/2; St. Louis $1.85. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 72 to 75¢. No.4 mixed corn Chicago 76¢. No.3 yellow corn St. Louis 81¢; Minneapolis 79 to 83¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 43¢; St. Louis 44 1/4¢; Minneapolis 39 1/4¢.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Chicago 42¢; Boston 44¢; Philadelphia 44 1/2¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets January 13: Daisies 24 1/2¢; Double Daisies 24 1/4¢; Longhorns 24 3/4¢; Square Prints 25 1/2¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 2 points, closing at 19.90¢ per lb.; New York March future contracts advanced 5 points, closing at 19.97¢. (Prepared by Bu. Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 14,	Jan. 13,	Jan. 14, 1925.
20 Industrials	156.90	158.31	122.97
20 R.R.stocks	111.26	112.42	99.59

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 15.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 13 Section 1 January 16, 1926

FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS

An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "The fourth national conference of the National Council of Farmers Cooperative Marketing Associations went on record at its concluding session yesterday as opposed to any legislation at this time dealing with surplus farm products. In adopting the report of its legislative committee, which recommended such a course, the conference upheld the views of Robert W. Bingham, of Louisville, chairman of the national council, and Aaron Sapiro, the council's legal adviser, who had urged that the question be left to the farmers themselves to meet through extended cooperative organization...The report provided for appointment of a committee of eight to study the surplus problem and report to the council's executive committee. Its findings will be made the basis of a referendum vote among the cooperative associations, which will determine the organization's policy on the subject."

HAUGEN BILL

The House agriculture committee yesterday voted approval of the Haugen bill to establish a division of cooperative marketing in the Department of Agriculture. (Press, Jan. 16.)

COTTON LEGISLATION

Twenty cooperative marketing leaders before the special joint Congressional cotton committee yesterday proposed legislation to prhibit gambling in cotton. (Press, Jan. 16.)

POULTRY TRUST INVESTIGATION

The Senate judiciary committee yesterday was informed by witnesses that an investigation of a "poultry trust" is under way by the Department of Justice. (Press, Jan. 16.)

RADIO

An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "Charges of monopoly in the radio field were made yesterday before the House merchant marine committee at its hearings on the White bill to regulate the industry."

RUBBER PROBLEM

Solution of the rubber problem lies in investment of American capital in plantations, chiefly in foreign countries, Harvey S. Firestone, president of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, of Akron, O., told the House Commerce Committee yesterday. "The American people will make the necessary investments in these far-off countries only if they feel assured of sympathetic support from their own Government," he said, "and in my opinion our Government should do everything within its power, consistent with its foreign policies, to encourage such investments." Mr. Firestone said it would be an aid if the Government took steps to remove laws in the Philippine Islands which are an effective barrier against large-scale development of rubber plantations and to enact laws to encourage the investment of capital there. (Press, Jan. 16.)

Section 2

Canadian Cattle Restrictions

An editorial in The Field (London) for December 31, says: "The meat traders are, we see, endeavoring to revive interest intthe restrictions which still remain upon the importation of Canadian cattle A deputation recently saw the Minister of Agriculture with a view to securing his assistance in removing the ban on the importation of Canadian breeding stock, but, it seems, with little success. The meat traders have the idea that, 'with so large a percentage of our dairy herds affected with tuberculosis,' the importation of healthy Canadian breeding cattle would help to secure a pure milk supply. However, the point for consideration is whether the importation of Canadian heifers would assist in grading-up the commercial cattle of this country...The removal of the ban on Canadian store cattle has not yet brought the manifold advantages--among them 6d. off the retail price of beef--which were so confidently anticipated by some people, and there is little reason to think that the importation of Canadian breeding stock would either add to our reputation as the stud farm of the world or would confer compensating benefits upon the consumer."

Corn Sugar

An editorial in The New York Journal of Commerce for January 15 says: "Someone who is interested in the manufacture and sale of dextrose, or 'corn sugar,' has had the happy thought that the distressed corn grower ought to be willing to aid in an effort to have Congress remove certain hampering legislation concerning the labeling of this food product. A substantial growth in the manufacture and consumption of this wholesome food would tend, so it is claimed, to take off the marke a very meat proportion of the surplus corn now troubling the farmers of Kansas and elsewhere. But, after all, does not this plan imply that corn sugar at the present time is being imposed upon for no good reason other than that it interferes with the profits of some interest or other. Would not the farmer be acquiescing in such a view of the matte by urging a change in order to help him get rid of his surplus corn? Farmers generally have, or think they have, a large interest in maintaining much of the fiction of the day about pure foods. They can not well accomplish that purpose by turning traitors to the cause as soon as their supposed interests are touched adversely."

Farm Equipment Outlook

The Wall Street Journal for January 15 says: "Farm equipment companies in the main have enjoyed their best year since 1920, and outlook for further progress is favorable....It is now obvious that the farmer was only awaiting an improvement in his financial position to replace his old farm equipment with new. Power farming, which had been held back by the large initial investment required, made rapid strides in 1925, aided by the spread of mechanical knowledge on the farm through automobile ownership and by tractor schools conducted by several companies. Consequent heavy demand for tractors and power-driven farm machinery, such as harvester-threshers, to go with them greatly benefited those companies which were in a position to supply it....With manufacturing costs cut to the bone as the result of the necessities of the deflation period, and with a much-needed further increase in volume in sight, well-managed farm equipment companies should show further gains in net in 1926."

Farm Relief Problems

An editorial in The Baltimore Sun for January 14 says: "At the meeting in Washington of the National Council of Farmers' Cooperative Marketing Associationsit is being made manifest that there is great divergence of opinion among the friends of the farmer as to how to set about relief of his grievances. This confusion of counsel accentuates the general public's difficulty in finding out who has authority to speak for him. More bothersome is the lack of reasonable explanation of how the more radical measures advanced to aid him would operate, what machinery would be provided to carry them out or what would be the result if they were enacted into law.....An analysis of the correspondence initiated by Vice-President Dawes between Sir Joseph Stamp, one of the most distinguished of living economists, and two advocates of the proposed export corporation leaves us still groping in the dark. Sir Joseph agrees that, in certain conditions, the plan would raise the general price of farm products, but he asserts that there are indeterminate factors without knowledge of which no definite prediction as to results can be made. If the scheme worked successfully, however, he points out these consequences; Exports would increase; domestic prices would rise; domestic demand would lessen, increasing exports if higher prices continued; world prices would be lowered, causing heavier losses in the export surplus; the cost of living in this country would increase and be followed by demands for higher wages; unfortunate international reaction might follow from dumping abroad....If the farmer were assured 40 cents more a bushel for wheat, how could he be stopped from swamping the export corporation? In the matter of corn, how is the excise tax going to be levied? Only a small portion of the crop is exported; it is fed to hogs and cattle. As it seems to be intended to levy loss on exports on all who raise the exported commodity, the machinery by which the farmer who feeds corn to cattle and hogs is to be caught in this drugnet would have to cover the whole country. How it is to be done is as yet not disclosed. The farmer is much inclined to quarrel at the Nation's indifference to his plight, when, in fact, it is puzzling its brain to learn what he wants to do and how he proposes to achieve the ends he seeks."

Road Construction

1 An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago on January 12 says: "A prediction that $1,250,000,000 would be spent this year on hard-road construction was made January 11 by William H. Connell, president of the American Road Builders' Association, in convention here."

2 An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for January 9 says: "It is interesting to know that the foreign roads, with their boasted superiority over American roads for centuries, did not 'stand up' under motor traffic, and the most famous of the Old World thoroughfares have been rebuilt to give better service to the motor car....The half-million miles of hard-surfaced roads in the United States are bringing the people to understand each other better than ever before, and are thus aiding in a social and political way as well as being of actual financial value to every industry and occupation. The isolation of the farmer has been overcome by the automobile and this alone is worth what the rebuilding--or actual building--of the roads of America are costing."

Two-Dollar Corn

An Associated Press dispatch from St. Joseph, Mo., to the press of January 13 says: "J. E. Farris, prominent Buchanan County farmer, has raised the ante on the recent offer by the International Harvester Co. of

America to pay $1 a bushel for corn in exchange for their farm implements. To put a 'kick' in corn values the farmer offers $2 a bushel for corn, payable in Missouri mules...."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Jan. 15: Grain prices quoted Jan.15: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.72 to $1.85. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.95 1/2; Kansas City $1.88. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.82 1/2; St. Louis $1.85; Kansas City $1.78 to $1.83. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 70 to 73¢; Kansas City 74¢; No.4 mixed corn Chicago 74 1/4¢. No.2 yellow corn (old) Chicago 82¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 77 to 81¢; St. Louis 78 1/2¢; Kansas City 75¢. No.3 white corn St. Louis 79¢; Kansas City 75 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 39¢; St. Louis 44 1/4¢; Kansas City 43¢.

New York sacked Round White potatoes $4.35 to $4.85 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland yellow varieties closed at $2 to $2.50 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. New York Danish type ranged $60 to $80 bulk per ton in consuming centers and sold mostly at $60 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples slightly weaker in city markets at $4 to $4.75 per barrel. Common storage stock steady at $3.50 to $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13 for the top, bulk $11.70 to $12.60. Beef steers choice $10.75 to $12.25, good $9.50 to $11.25; heifers, good and choice $7 to $10.75; canner and cutters $3.75 to $4.50; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves medium to choice $5 to $9.25; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $6.25 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $13.50 to $15.75; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.25 to $13.50; fat ewes, common to choice, $5.75 to $9.50; feeding lambs $14 to $15.75.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 44 1/2¢; Boston 44¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 34 points, closing at 20.24¢ per lb. New York March future contracts advanced 35 points, closing at 20.32¢. (Prepared by the Bur. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 15,	Jan. 14,	Jan. 15,1925
	20 Industrials	155.10	156.90	121.38
	20 R.R. stocks	109.80	111.26	98.36

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 16.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 14 Section 1 January 18, 1926

FARM AID BILLS The Associated Press to-day reviews new farm aid bills offered in Congress as follows: "Farm relief legislation continued to claim considerable attention Saturday in Congress. Direct Government control of grain and other products was proposed in a bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Frazier and one presented in the House by Representative Little of Kansas.

"The House agriculture committee continued hearings. John P. Wallace and Harvey Ingham, publishers, of Des Moines, indorsed the Dickinson bill, which would form a Federal export board, and levy an equalization tax for disposition of surplus crops. They declared the food supply of the Nation was being menaced by agricultural depression.

"William Adcock, of Galesburg, Ill., representing the Illinois General Assembly, urged an export bounty on wheat, corn and livestock. He also advocated an excise tax and equalization of the import tariff to pay for the bounty."

THE SECRETARY ON CARAWAY BILL The press of January 17 reports that Secretary Jardine advised the Senate agricultural committee January 16 that he was opposed to the Caraway bill to prohibit future trading on cotton and grain.

NEW YORK "BOOTLEG" MILK BAN The New York press of January 17 states that an embargo on milk, cream and other dairy products from eleven shippers in Middle Western States was ordered January 16 by Dr. Louis I. Harris, Commissioner of Health, who announced that his action was due to "irregularities" uncovered in the Health Department which were allowing milk and cream to come into the city without proper inspection. The eleven shippers, he said, were in Columbus, Janesville, Madison, Middletown, Burlington, Cameron, Menominee, Reedsburg, Valders and Fond-du-Lac, Wis., and Hutchinson, Minn.

ARGENTINE WHEAT CROP A Buenos Aires dispatch to the press of January 17 states that the Ministry of Agriculture issued a detailed report on the condition of the country's grain crops January 16, showing that, while the wheat yield has suffered in the Provinces of Santa Fe and Cordoba and especially in Entre Rios, the harvest in the Province of Buenos Aires, one of the most important wheat centers, is considered satisfactory as regards quantity, although light in quality.

TAX LEGISLATION The Associated Press January 17 reports: "Senate Republicans and Democrats on the finance committee compromised their differences on tax reduction yesterday and ordered by unanimous vote a report of the House revenue bill to the Senate with considerable modifications. The compromise, which involved principally further reductions in the surtax rates and repeal of the inheritance tax, increased the total reduction provided by the House measure for this year from $330,000,000 to $360,000,000 and cleared the way for early passage of the bill by the Senate....."

Section 2

Buying Power Alan H. Temple, writing in Commerce and Finance for January 13, says: "The record-breading amount of general advertising done last year and contracted for this year means essentially that John Doe is buying and has money to buy. It is the proclamation of a phenomenal individual prosperity. Last year was John Doe's biggest year. His salary or wages--if he is any sort of a hired worker except a "white collar man'--represented the largest purchasing power in his career. His money wage has risen so much faster than the prices of the things he has to buy, says Dr. Paul H. Doublas of Chicago University, that in 1925 he was able to purchase 27 per cent more goods than he could in, say, 1896--a year which many people are accustomed to look back upon as the 'good old days' of steak at 15 cents a pound and eggs at 18 cents a dozen. His increased purchasing power, however, is the mere groundwork of John Doe's astonishing story. He was a prosperous fellow as far back as the years between 1896 and 1900, though he had to work longer hours. He had all the food he needed, sufficient clothes, and adequate shelter. He has had no desire in the intervening years merely to increase his consumption of these same things. So as his buying power has grown he has spent it on an unexampled diversity of goods, and he has achieved immeasurably the highest living standard of any workingman in the world. And in 1925 this buying power reached a peak even higher than it had touched in previous years; the satisfaction of his needs compelled by far the largest production and commerce that any single country in the world has ever known. Last year must stand as a year of many records, but of none more significant than the economic well-being of John Doe--the repeated multiplication of the distribution of articles that even five years ago he would have considered luxuries, and the tremendous accumulation of saving in various forms that has gone hand in hand with his expenditures."

Farmer Interests An editorial in The Christian Science Monitor for January 1 says: "While the American farmer has been facing in the last few years conditions that have increased and accentuated the normal difficulties inherent in his industry, he certainly has no just cause to complain at the present moment that his troubles are not receiving attention. The breadth and amount of discussion of farm problems now going on is extraordinary. Conventions of many kinds, economic, financial, industrial, political and agricultural, are being held in all parts of the country, and at them floods of statistics, tidal waves of argument and oceans of relief proposals are pouring forth....All these conflicting movements and statistics and assertions at first glance seem to indicate hopeless confusion. What they really show, however, is that under the surface a tremendous process of education is going on all over the country. The farmer and his needs and his value to the Nation are being studied from every standpoint as never before. Out of this enlightening process there will surely come a better understanding on the part of the farmers themselves of their own resources and of how to develop and use them. Politicians and legislators will learn what to do and what not to do for the rural population. The general public will be stirred to a higher appreciation of the industrious people who feed it. Motor cars, telephones, radio and a hundred other inventions will in the meantime help to remove rural isolation more and more and tend to check the drift from farms to cities. These are, indeed, the days of the farmer."

Florida Citrus Fruit

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for January 10 says: "Some few months ago the citrus industry in Florida was distressed because of the report made by the Government agents. The Federal authorities estimated the citrus crop of Florida at about 20,000,000 boxes. Complaint was made that such a report, which was declared far from being correct, would cause much loss to growers. Prices would slant down, they said, in view of an extraordinarily heavy crop. An unofficial check-up was made which was somewhere about 14,000,000 boxes. The Government agents looked over the groves and made a new guess, this time it was 17,000,000 boxes; and then came a wind storm and knocked off a few million boxes more. The citrus growers were worried somewhat until the crop began to ripen and the market opened. Now they are not worried. The demand for Florida oranges set in strong as soon as the first of the golden fruit reached the market, and it has steadily increased since. The manager of a well known fruit company, discussing the situation and prospects recently in the Times-Union, said: 'The highest prices have been obtained this season of any I have ever known, on both oranges and grapefruit. We have received a large number of orders, by telegraph and mail, which commend the quality of the fruit and speak of the fine condition in which it is arriving. The man quoted was F. L. Skelly, of Orlando, and his opinion and information are beyond question...Mr. Skelly remarked that the new citrus fruit law, which deals sharply with any who attemtp to ship green fruit, was one of the best things done for the industry in years, and had been of incalculable value to the growers."

Iowa Corn Conference

An editorial in The Drovers Journal-Stockman (Omaha) for January 4 says: "Advices from Des Moines are to the effect that all was not unanimity at the agricultural conference there last week. The only thing that all agreed on was that in Iowa the cash corn situation was and still is unsatisfactory by reason of the big crop and the low price. When it came to suggesting a remedy for these conditions, by legislation or otherwise, there were about as many different opinions as there were delegates ...The conference adopted a series of resolutions favoring some sort of an export corporation, financed or backed by the Government, to buy up surplus farm products but no actual plan was outlined because none could be agreed on. Bankers, farm leaders and statesmen could arrive at no definite scheme and the real farmers of the country seem to be just as much at sea as the men who attended and took part in the conference. And yet it is probable that the conference may result in much good. It at least has called attention to the fact that the richest agricultural State in the Union, with the largest corn crop in its history, is in a bad way financially and the buying power of the farmers is away below par. This situation must appeal to the business interests of the country and may result in a workable plan of relief being found. Perhaps the most unfortunate feature of the situation is that the leading farmer organizations have not and apparently can not agree on any definite course of action. If they could do this the rest would apparently be easy since the sentiment of the whole country seems to be favorable to doing anything and everything possible to get agriculture back on its feet once more. The Des Moines conference may not have accomplished the purpose its sponsors hoped to have achieved but it has served to keep before the country the fact that the farmer's dollar is still too weak in purchasing power to permit agriculture to join in the general prosperity of the country."

Price Fixing The New York Commercial for January 15 quotes the following from The Houston Post: "It is not the province of the Government to guarantee to any group of citizens a profitable business. It is not the responsibility of the Government to stand good for the losses that citizens may incur in the conduct of their business. The Government has no moral right to take money out of the pockets of the people generally and give it to those who happen to be unsuccessful in their private business. To do so would be to recognize the principle of class government, which is the very antithesis of the principle of democracy. The Government can not exempt farmers from the ordinary vicissitudes of business any more than it can rightfully exempt any other class. If it is the duty of the Government to fix the price of grain, or to take the grain crop and sell it for the farmers at a price that will be profitable to them, then it is the duty of the Government to fix the price of merchandise and make sure that the merchant will reap a profit on the sale, regardless of his ability as a merchant; it is its duty to fix the fees charged by professional men, and the wages paid to working people, so that all of these will reap a profit from their endeavor. If one class is entitled to a guarantee price for its product, even if the Government has to take the money out of the Treasury to make up the deficit, all classes are entitled to such benevolent treatment at the Government's hands. Such a contention, of course, is preposterous."

Price Spreads An editorial in The Washington Post for January 14 says: "...The impetus back of this modern cooperative marketing movement among the farmers is economy in marketing and better prices for farmers. It is claimed that considerable economy is accomplished by means of cooperation in shipment. California fruit growers, Virginia potato growers, Southern fruit growers, Wisconsin fruit growers, dairymen and potato growers, Oregon apple growers, and New York milk producers all report a great saving in the marketing of their commodities....While modern distribution is the development of years of intense effort, and is essential to modern business, nevertheless the farmers and the public in general want to know if it is necessary for the farmer to receive only 96 cents per bushel for potatoes while the public pays $2.13 per bushel; for the farmer to receive $3.86 per bushel for his beans while the public pays from $7 to $8 per bushel; for the grower of peaches to receive about $1.08 per bushel while the public pays about $9.48 per bushel; for the grower of apples to receive about $1.68 per bushel while the public pays from $3 to $4 per bushel; for the farmer to receive a small sum for his eggs, butter and vegetables while the public pays five or six times for the same commodities; for the farmer to receive about $6.50 per 100 pounds for beef cattle while the consumer of beef pays from 50 to 60 cents per pound. Here is a large field of inquiry touching the possibility of 'farm relief' without resorting to schemes for establishing Government export monopolies."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture An editorial in The Miami Herald for January 5 says: "Those who fought for an embargo on the shipment into this country of narcissus bulbs and other plants which have at times borne destructive parasites, came in for very harsh criticism for a time from some of the garden clubs and other similar organizations. There were accusations of a lack of good faith, or a desire for nothing except financial gain, and of an attempt to set up a monopoly that would permit the imposing on American

gardeners of unreasonable prices. The Saturday Evening Post came to the support of the intersts which were seeking the embargo in a lengthy editorial on the subject, in which it maintains that the gardeners are wrong, and the American bulb growers are right. The Post presents the view, which seems the proper view, that it is better to impose some hardships, if necessary, on a few persons who want cheap bulbs, rather than run the risk of destroying the whole bulb-growing industry in this country. It has been demonstrated that there is some danger in admitting foreign bulbs. It may be that the dangerous parasite would not come in on any of the bulbs for some time. It may be, as the garden clubs contend, that the shippers are very careful. As long as the parasite is found at all in the lands where bulbs are grown, there is always danger that it may be brought to this country. If it were a question of getting bulbs from abroad or not having them at all, there might be some reason for setting the embargo aside. No such situation is involved. American growers are able to produce bulbs in sufficient number to supply the demand. Many growers made heavy investments when the importation of foreign bulbs were first prohibited, on the assumption that they would be protected in developing a new industry. They have a right to that protection, and the country has a right to protection against the importation of a parasite that might ultimately destroy all bulbs. This country has had a good deal of experience with foreign plant pests. That experience has been very costly. It would be foolish to run the risk of doing the same thing over that has been done with many fruits and flowers."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ending Jan. 16: Chicago hog market was uneven, January 16 market being steady to 15¢ lower on lighter weights with others mostly unchanged, top to-day was $12.85, bulk of sales $11.50 to $12.40. The cattle market compared with a week ago finds good and choice yearlings scarce and the market steady to 25¢ higher. Beef steers were unevenly lower, heavyweights declining fully 25¢ with some sales off more. Stockers and feeders are steady. Fat she stock was mostly 25 to 40¢ lower with good and choice weighty cows and heifers as much as 50¢ lower. In the sheep market, fat lambs were around 75¢ lower than a week ago, feeding lambs 50 to 75¢ lower, ewes strong to 25¢ higher. Fat lambs topped at $16.25, feeding lambs $16.10 and fat ewes $9.50 for the week.

Northern sacked Round White potatoes declined 15 to 20¢ on the Chicago carlot market at $3.85 to $4.10 per 100 pounds and sold at $3.85 to $4.15 f.o.b. New York sacked Round Whites ranged $4.15 to $4.85 in eastern cities and $4.35 to $4.40 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type ranged $50 to $80 bulk per ton in city markets and sold mostly at $60 f.o.b. Rochester. Onions dull. New York yellow varieties ranged $2.50 to $3.25 sacked per 100 pounds in a few eastern markets and $2.50 to $2.75 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellows $2.75 to $3.25 in consuming centers. New York Baldwin apples weakened slightly in leading markets at $3.50 to $4.75 per barrel. Common storage stock steady at $3.50 to $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester. Northwestern extra fancy Winesaps $2.75 to $3 per box in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 56 points during the week, closing at 20.41¢ per lb. New York March future contracts advanced 56 points, closing at 20.46¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 15 Section 1 January 19, 1926.

GRAIN EXCHANGES PLEDGE AID — An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "Extension of the methods for prevention of grain market price manipulation was promised Secretary Jardine yesterday by a delegation of representatives of the grain markets at Chicago, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee, and St. Louis."

HORSE BAN PROTESTED — Protest against the order just issued by the District of Columbia Commissioners barring horses from some of the streets of Washington as a means of relieving the traffic congestion, was made yesterday by the Horse Association of America, according to the press to-day.

VIRGINIA PARK BILL — Senator Swanson introduced a bill yesterday to establish a national military park near Fredericksburg, Va. (Press, Jan. 19.)

ESCH OPPOSES GOODING BILL — Opposition of the Interstate Commerce Commission to the Gooding bill to amend the long and short haul provision of the Interstate Commerce Act was expressed to the Senate interstate commerce committee yesterday by John J. Esch, member of the commission. (Press, Jan. 19.)

HOOVER ON RUBBER — Secretary Hoover, testifying before the House interstate commerce committee yesterday, investigating foreign control of rubber and other raw materials, said the administration had advised against direct loans by American bankers to those interested in the British rubber and the Brazilian coffee monopoly. (Press, Jan. 19.)

FLORIDA EMBARGO — An Atlanta dispatch to the press to-day states that further modification of the embargo on express shipments into Florida was announced yesterday by William G. Smith, vice president of the American Railway and Express Company.

WISCONSIN ANTI-OLEO LAW INVALID — A Madison, Wis., dispatch to the press to-day states that the Wisconsin Anti-Oleomargine Law was declared unconstitutional by Circuit Judge Hoppmann there January 18. He granted manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers of oleomargine a permanent injunction restraining the State from enforcing the law. The Court held that the law was unreasonable and discriminatory. The law, passed by the 1925 Legislature, prohibits the manufacture or sale in Wisconsin of oleomargine in which milk or milk products are used. Counsel for both sides have stated that the cases would be appealed.

Section 2

Agricultural Products Tariff

An editorial in The Chicago Journal of Commerce for January 11 says: "When Secretary Jardine, speaking not only for himself but for President Coolidge, indorses Representative Dickinson's agricultural bill he is indorsing not the principle of price fixing, or of Government marke ing, or of a farm subsidy, but the principle that the farmer is entitled to Government machinery which will give him the equivalent of the protection that is due him under our tariff laws. Our agricultural tariff is almost entirely a paper tariff, insofar as it relates to commodities of which we produce a surplus which must be exported. We have fixed rates to protect the farmer against the competition of imports, but in most cases there are no imports. Therefore the tariff is a paper tariff. The essence of the Dickinson plan is that we assume for a moment that the present tariff rates on agricultural products represent the amount of protection the farmer deserves, and that we bring the price of agricultural products up to a point where the difference between the domestic and the foreign price is approximately the amount of the tariff. But nobody has undertaken to prove that the existing agricultural tariff levels are fair to the consumer and the producer. Until now, it hasn't mattered. But if such a plan as that of Mr. Dickinson is passed, then the question of the fairness of the agricultural tariff rates should be discussed, and it will be necessary to deal with these rates as with other tariff schedules. Possibly the tariff of forty-two cents on wheat is too high. In view of our growing population and our continual approach to a domestic basis, it may not be equitable to make American consumers pay forty-two cents more than the world price. If the new machinery proceeds to add this sum to the price to the consumer because this is the sum fixed by the tariff, it will become in order to decide whether this tariff rate (and with it the artificial boost given by the new machinery) should not be lowered, while perhaps other farm tariff rates should be raised."

Cotton and Rubber Prices

An editorial in Manufacturers Record for January 14, says: "If it were feasible by combination of States or by Federal Government action to put the price of cotton at 40 cents or 50 cents a pound, this advance would be enthusiastically approved by a very large proportion of the people of the South; and very justly so, for cotton is selling far below its intrinsic value, and to a large extent below the cost of production. The situation of the cotton growers of the South is identical with that of the rubber producers of the world prior to the action of the British Government in limiting the exportation of rubber and thus bringing about a rapid increase in price. This country is not doing the same thing in regard to cotton, because we have no legislation under which such action could be taken, but the desire is there on the part of every cotton grower, and to a large extent of the business men of the South generally. On the other hand, England was able through governmental action to control the sale of rubber and gradually force the price up to what is now regarded as an exorbitant figure -- so high, indeed, that it has put an extra tax, it is estimated, on the rubber buyers of this country of over $500,000,000 a year. This action is being bitterly resented throughout the country. In Congress it has aroused a spirit of hostility to the British policy, but some of the very men who are antagonizing Great Britain by reason of this action would gladly vote for the adoption of some method which overnight would treble the price of cotton. Perhaps it is unfortunate that we have no legislative power in America which makes it possible for this country to take such action as would advance the

price of cotton....Europe has for a century done its utmost to hold down the price of cotton. As a buyer of cotton, it felt justified in seeking as low a price as possible. As a buyer of rubber, this country is justified in seeking to secure a lower price than we are now paying for rubber. But every argument that we are using against the rubber action of England is in harmony with the action of England for many years against the price of cotton. Secretary Hoover and others are advocating the production of rubber in this country or in other countries which would be independent of the English combine in order to supply ourselves with that material. England has for a century been seeking to develop cotton growing in other parts of the world so that it might lessen its dependence on the South. Each country is justified in its action, but there should be no bitterness of spirit on the part of either. They are both fighting on economic lines, and each one is determined to do the best it can for itself."

Cotton Men Want Report — An Atlanta dispatch to the press of January 18 says: "Plans for a general cotton convention, to be held in Memphis, Tenn., February 3, were made at the recent cotton conference here, and resolutions were passed urging a reduction of 25 per cent in the 1926 cotton acreage. Congress was asked to require the United States Department of Agriculture to issue statistics on the estimated cost of growing cotton each season, and to provide for issuance of reports on growing conditions during the first weeks of June, July, August, September and October. The conference asked legislation to 'gather statistical data on the average estimated cost of growing cotton for each year and publish same through the crop-reporting bureau in connection with its report during the first week in October on condition and the estimated forecast of production.' It was also recommended that Congress re-instate the monthly ginning report in place of the semimonthly report now issued. It was decided that conferences be called in each cotton-growing State on January 25, under the supervision of the State commissioners of agriculture, to be attended by all interested in cotton production. J. S. Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton Association, was chairman of the conference and the principal speaker was Senator Heflin, of Alabama. Every cotton-producing State except Texas and Oklahoma was represented."

French Tariff — A Paris dispatch to the press of January 18 says: "Frankfurters and flowers furnished the basis for the first real progress made in the negotiations for a commercial treaty between France and Germany, which have just been resumed here. The German mission wanted to put a prohibitive tariff on French horticultural products, but at the same time demanded a favorable tariff rate on German sausage, which is being consumed in France in increasing amounts along with Alsatian sauerkraut. The French replied in effect: 'No French flowers in Germany, no German frankfurters in France.' From this situation resulted the first definite agreement achieved since the negotiations opened in October, 1924, and reciprocally favorable duties on these items were fixed."

Government Cost — The total cost of Government in this country, covering the expenditures of Federal, State and local governmental authorities and including capital outlays, amounted to $10,252,000,000 in 1924, as against $2,919,000,000 in 1913, according to a report on "Cost of Government in the United States," prepared and made public January 17 by the National Industrial Conference Board, New York. (Press, Jan. 18.)

Livestock Figures

An editorial in The Washington Post for January 18 says: "The Department of Commerce announces the result of its enumeration of cattle and hogs on the farms of the United States as of January 1, 1925, together with a comparison with the figures of January 1, 1920. This census of farm animals explains the advance in the price of meats during the last five years, as the falling off in the number of food animals warrants the increase in the prices demanded by the butcher and the market man. According to these figures there were 5,080,807 fewer cattle of all kinds reported in 1925,than in 1920. The swine population fell from 59,346,409 in 1920 to 51,842,428 in 1925, a difference of 7,503,981, or more than twelve and a half per cent, and as the females of both species are scarcer than the males little hope can be entertained that the tribe will increase sufficiently to warrant lower meat prices in the near future. If Secretary Hoover's census experts keep on cutting down the animal population we shall have to follow the dietary customs of President Coolidge's fellow citizens of New England, and substitute beans and pie for bacon and steak on our breakfast tables."

Rubber Manufacture in Texas

An Associated Press dispatch from Marathon, Tex., says: "In this little southwest Texas town domestic rubber is manufactured from the guayule plant, which grows wild all over this section. A factory, under the spur of high rubber prices, has reached an output of a ton a day...."

Rubber Reclamation in France

A Paris dispatch to the press of January 17 says: "It was learned that representatives of two British financial groups are sending engineers to France by airplane at the end of the coming week, to watch the test of an apparatus invented by a French engineer, which extracts pure rubber from all sorts of worn out rubber products by means of a new catalyzing process...."

Wholesale Prices

The general level of wholesale prices declined in December, while industrial production, as a whole, was on the upgrade. The Labor Department's index of wholesale prices, based on fluctuations in 404 commodities with the 1913 level considered as 100, stood at 156.2 last month, compared with 157.7 in November and 157.0 in December, 1924. The recession was attributed chiefly to declines in the prices of most food items and farm products such as corn, cattle, hides, eggs and wool.

Wool Prices

A Fort Worth, Tex., dispatch to the press of January 18 states that sheep, cattle and wool are active in all the range country this month. A new top of 42 cents per pound for wool was paid at San Angelo, when George Kincaid, president of the Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, sold 43,000 pounds to Boston and Philadelphia firms. This sale included only 1925 fall clip, while for 12,000 pounds of long wool, left over from last year, Kincaid was paid 44 cents.

A Boise, Idaho, dispatch to-day says: "High costs in wool and mutton production have come to stay and the wool man must meet that cost with efficiency of management, higher quality of product and cooperation with the Government grading questions, Frank J. Hagenbarth, of Spencer, Idaho, president of the National Wool Growers' Association, told the members at the opening session of the organization's sixty-first annual meeting here January 18."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Jan. 18: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.25 for the top; bulk of sales $11.90 to $12.70; beef steers choice $10.75 to $12.25; heifers, good and choice $7 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.50 to $8.25; common and medium $4.65 to $6.50; canners and cutters $3.90 to $4.65; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.25 to $9.25; stockers and feeders, common to choice $5.85 to $9; fat lambs $13.50 to $15.75; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.25 to $13.50; fat ewes, common to choice $5.75 to $9.50; feeding lambs, medium to choice $14 to $15.50.

Eastern Round White potatoes ranged $4.15 to $4.65 sacked per 100 pounds in most terminals. Northern Round Whites declined 25 to 40¢ on the Chicago carlot market to $3.75 to $4; $3.75 to $3.80 f.o.b. Waupaca, Wis. Delaware and Maryland yellow variety sweet potatoes declined about 15¢ in eastern markets to $2 to $2.65 per bushel hamper. New York Baldwin apples $3.50 to $5 per barrel in eastern cities. New York Danish type cabbage $45 to $60 bulk per ton in distributing centers; $55 to $60 f.o.b. Rochester.

Grain prices quoted January 18: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.70 to $1.83. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.94; Kansas City $1.87. No.2 hard winter St.Louis $1.85; Kansas City $1.79. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 69 to 72¢; Kansas City 72 1/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 76 to 80¢; St. Louis 75 1/2¢; Kansas City 73 1/4¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 73 1/2¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 38 1/2¢; St. Louis 43 1/4¢; Kansas City 42 1/4¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Philadelphia 42 1/2¢; Boston 44¢; Chicago 41 3/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 2 points, closing at 20.43¢ per lb. New York March future contracts advanced 6 points, closing at 20.52¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 18,	Jan. 16,	Jan. 17, 1925.
20 Industrials	155.98	155.23	123.13
20 R.R. stocks	110.34	109.70	99.30

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 19.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 16 Section 1 January 20, 1926.

THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM — Prompt action is necessary if the Mount Hamilton tract is to be acquired for the proposed National Arboretum, the House agriculture committee was told yesterday by representatives of the Department of Agriculture, and Mrs. Frank B. Noyes, representing the Garden Club of America. Besides Mrs. Noyes, more than a score of others appeared in support of the Luce bill, authorizing the President to turn over the tract to the Department of Agriculture, and authorizing the appropriation of $350,000 for erection of the arboretum. Private interests will get the tract unless action toward locating the arboretum there is taken, Mrs. Noyes said. (Press, Jan. 20.)

FEDERAL-AID ROAD LEGISLATION — Supplemental estimates of $22,900,000 for the Government's share in Federal-aid road projects and $3,775,000 for construction of forest roads were sent to Congress yesterday by the President.

LONG AND SHORT HAUL BILL — Before the Senate interstate commerce committee yesterday, Alfred P. Thom, general counsel of Association of Railway Executives, opposed the long and short haul bill.

COTTON FUTURES BILL — Prevention of speculation in cotton futures is proposed in a bill introduced in the House yesterday by Representative Hudspeth.

IOWA BANK CLOSES — A Fort Dodge dispatch to the press to-day states that the First National Bank of Pocahontas was closed January 19 by the management, due to frozen assets. Deposits amounted to about $370,000.

RUBBER CONSUMPTION — December consumption of rubber in the United States was probably 7,000 tons below the preceding month, Secretary Hoover estimated January 19. He regarded a part of the reduction as seasonable, but also considered that it might to some degree indicate the intent of American consumers to reduce their takings on account of high prices. (Press, Jan. 20.)

FLORIDA TRAFFIC MEASURES — A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Wartime measures, applied to an entire State for the first time since 1918, are solving Florida's freight traffic congestion, A. W. Wilkins, secretary of the Midwest Shippers' Regional Advisory Board, reported January 19 on his return from Florida, where he made a study of conditions for shippers of the Central West. The priority shipment plan, which solved the Nation's tremendous railroad transportation problem while the guns were booming overseas, has been put into effect in Florida and is proving efficacious in straightening out the State's traffic embroglio, said Mr. Wilkins."

Section 2

Alabama Farmers Richer — A Birmingham, Ala., dispatch to the press of January 19 states that F. W. Gist, of Auburn, statistician for the State department of agriculture, reports that the farmers are better off by ten to twenty million dollars than they were in 1924. His figures, based on December prices, show them richer by $10,213,000, and as December prices were below the average for the year, Mr. Gist estimates that the increase is much nearer twenty million dollars than ten million.

British Rural Problems — An editorial in Country Life (London) for January 2 says: "...Unfortunately, among the acts which have been placed on the Statute Book there are few which are likely directly to aid the recovery of agriculture and stay the depopulation of the countryside. The Government claims, besides the Pensions act, a rating act and various acts for consolidating previous statutes. That which will have most effect on rural life is, undoubtedly, the Property act, which, though not primarily due to the present Government, comes into force this week. It will not, unfortunately, lessen for some thirty years the legal problems arising out of our hiterto unsystematized methods of land tenure. By an exhaustive process of appeal to the courts the interpretation of this long and complicated act will, no doubt, eventually be established, but until that has happened the act can hardly be said to simplify things. It remains to be seen what the effect on the countryside will be of the provision which treats real estate as a species of personal property in cases of intestacy and which does away with our settled methods of inheritance. It is certainly unlikely to consolidate those large estates which in the past have shown the best results in agriculture...."

Caraway Bill — An editorial in The Chicago Journal of Commerce for January 16 says: "A week from next Friday the Senate is to vote on the Caraway bill to prohibit trading in cotton and grain futures. That the bill will be passed is extremely unlikely, for most Senators realize that agricultural sentiment no longer is much concerned about futures trading. The thing which Senator Caraway is now attempting has been tried time and again; and without exception the people whom the reformers attempted to benefit have suffered from the change. The farmers of Bavaria thought the grain market was robbing them. They succeeded in having the market closed. The grain men moved to the Liverpool market, which ever since then has been the world market for grain. It was not long before the farmers discovered that their reform had injured them. Thereupon they reversed their position and had the grain market re-established...."

Corn Sugar — An Associated Press dispatch to the press of January 18 says: "An effective way out of the corn belt farmers' recurring dilemma of big crops with low prices is development of corn sugar, in the opinion of many financial and agricultural leaders of Iowa. The only legislative action sought would be a minor change in the pure food and drug law, removing the present discrimination against corn sugar, which classes it as an adulterant. The principal advantage, exponents point out, is that corn sugar would not seriously compete with any other American product, but would create profitable employment not only for the farmer but for a large number of American workmen...."

Farmer View — An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for January 19 says: "Not every farmer deserves the contempt for his intelligence which the politicians who exploit him for their own purposes so liberally bestow. Here

is some straight talk from a farmer in Iowa, operating 2,300 acres in the corn belt. His first satirical paragraph says: 'Does the farmer know what he wants? To settle the doubt in your mind if it (the doubt) is still there, he wants big crops, high prices, low freight rates and good profits profits each year, not one out of three or four. He wants to be able to go into his field, plow, plant, harvest and receive his profit without the worry that in the end there may be no profit. His argument runs that a manufacturer makes a plow or wagon, figures the cost, adds the profit and sells with profit attached--a dead open and shut game; he can't lose.' And this intelligent farmer, G. P. Edgar of Burlington, Iowa, who certainly knows what he doesn't want, goes on to answer the question like a man. He says: 'The purpose of the writer is to do his bit towards erasing from the minds of some of our eastern friends the impression that farmers are unanimous. Some of us, at least, and in fact many more of us than our supposed political friends would have you believe, are disgusted with the publicity we are getting. A part of us know that a manufacturer can lose and often does, and when he does, he doesn't come whining and whimpering to the Government to help him out, and if he did, we know the farmers would be the first to raise Cain. There are many farmers who will not subscribe to any law, now up or coming, the object of which would be to compel the public to make us prosperous.' Oblivious of the fact that our farm production in acreage, quantity, quality and value has astonishingly kept pace with our astonishing population growth, political agitators have made us hysterically anxious lest the farmer should throw up his job. The migration from the farms to the towns has been slowing down, until the movement, at least of truck farmers, is perceptibly in the opposite direction. Wouldn't you call the new generation of orange growers in Florida farmers? Farm conditions, thanks to the Ford car and telephone, the tractor and electric power, are better than they ever were. What is the farmer's real grievance? Surely it is the politician who has multiplied his taxes for him?...Here is a farmer who stands on his own feet and speaks his mind. It would be an insult to our great agricultural class to suppose that there are not many more like him."

German Potash Sales — A Berlin dispatch to the press of January 18 states that the potash syndicate's home sales for the whole of 1925 amounted to 772,758 tons of pure potash, against 502,466 tons in 1924. Its foreign sales were 452,695 tons, against 341,393.

Government Aid — An editorial in Topeka Daily Capital for January 15 says: "Eastern newspapers, charging that an effort is being made to have the Government subsidize the farmers, appear to be ignorant of the real facts or are wilfully misrepresenting them. They say that proponents of measures for agricultural relief are seeking to upset the law of supply and demand, arbitrarily fix prices and put the @overnment into the business of buying and selling crops. Few farmers or friends of farmers have anything of the sort in their minds. They are simply endeavoring to put the industry of agriculture on a plane of equality in the matter of returns, with other industry which, at the present time, is enjoying general prosperity. They hold it is not right that the farmer should do business with a depreciated dollar as against the full value dollar of other folks....."

Texas Cotton Credit — An Austin dispatch to the press of January 19 states that arrangements have been made by the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association for credit to the amount of $3,000,000 for its members, according to Harry Williams, of Dallas, secretary-treasurer. "The association, through its

subsidiary, the Texas Cotton Growers' Finance Corporation, has arranged with the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Houston for credit to the farmers of the State by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank through the Finance Corporation," Mr. Williams said. "Paper will be rediscounted at the ratio of six to one. This is the first effort that has been made in Texas in a large way to make it possible for the farmers of this State to avail themselves of this credit. It means that they can borrow money for six to nine months at the rate of 7 per cent per annum and, inasmuch as the prevailing rate in this State is 10 per cent., it is easy to calculate that, if $3,000,000 is borrowed, there will be a saving in interest rates alone of $90,000 per annum. The entering of the cotton cooperative marketing association into the production credit field follows closely the recent distribution by it to its members at cost of approximately 75,000 bushels of certified cotton seed, with a view to improving the quality of Texas cotton."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

1 An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for January 18 says: "Not so long ago it was the favorite pastime of a good many in Congress from Southern States to enter vitriolic complaints against the crop reports and the crop reporting methods of the Department of Agriculture and often to demand that legislation be enacted preventing much of the work of this sort being undertaken in that department. There has been a noticeable loss of interest on the part of the soi-disant friends of the farmer during more recent weeks. The reason is now clear. These outspoken critics have been hearing from back home and as a result they are no longer so anxious to appear before the country as advocates of discontinuance of forecasts early in the season, or at any other time for that matter, as they used to be. The action of the cotton cooperatives the other evening in letting it be known that they desired no change in the crop reporting law explains a good deal...."

2 An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for January 19 says: "Reports from Washington are to the effect that the Secretary of Agriculture is convinced that it would not do to put an end to the opportunities now afforded wheat, cotton and other merchants to hedge their purchases, and is taking pains to let the agricultural community know of his views on the subject. Nor is the Secretary of Agriculture alone in this matter. There appear to be a good many other farm leaders who entertain the same views and are publicly stating them at this time. All this is very well, of course. It may be taken for granted that farmers as well as others in the community would suffer by such a disturbance in the existing marketing machinery as would be entailed by abolition of hedging privileges. But are these farm agitators fully aware of all the implications involved in what they are saying? Most of them miss but few opportunities to inveigh against speculation in any form. They commonly blame a good part of the troubles of the farmers, real or imaginary, upon those who speculate in farm products. Yet how can the hedging system be preserved except by a continuation of speculative markets in vigorous condition? Those who have hedges to sell must find speculative buyers for their contracts. There is no one else to buy them. The simple truth of the matter is that there is urgent need for more intelligent and more sincere treatment of this whole subject."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Jan. 19: Chicago prices closed at $11.50 to $12.50 for bulk of hogs; beef steers choice $10.75 to $12.25; heifers, good and choice $7 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.40 to $7.85; canners and cutters $4 to $4.85; vealers, medium to choice $11 to $14.50; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.25 to $9.25; stockers and feeders, common to choice $5.85 to $9; fat lambs, medium to choice $13.50 to $15.75; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.25 to $13.50; fat ewes, common to choice $5.75 to $9.50; feeding lambs, medium to choice $14 to $15.50.

Grain prices quoted January 19: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.73 to $1.86. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.95; Kansas City $1.89. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.81 1/2; St. Louis $1.87; Kansas City $1.78 to $1.83. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 70 to 73¢; Kansas City 73¢. No.4 mixed corn Chicago 72 1/2¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 74 to 81¢; St. Louis 77¢; Kansas City 73 1/2¢. No.3 white corn St. Louis 73 1/2¢; Kansas City 74 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 42 1/2¢; Minneapolis 39¢; St. Louis 43 1/2¢; Kansas City 42 3/4¢.

New York and midwestern cabbage sold at $40 to $65 bulk per ton in eastern cities; $50 to $55 track sales in Chicago and $55 to $57 f.o.b. at shipping points. New York and Pennsylvania Round White potatoes $4.15 to $5 sacked per 100 pounds in distributing centers; Northern stock $4.45 to $4.65, with sales at country loading points ranging $3.75 to $3.80. New York and midwestern yellow onions $2.50 to $3 sacked per 100 pounds in terminal markets; $2.50 to $2.75 f.o.b. at shipping points. New York Baldwin apples ranged $3 to $4 per barrel in eastern markets; common storage stock $3.50 to $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester.

Middling spot cotton in 8 designated spot markets declined 17 points, closing at 20.27¢ per lb. New York March future contracts declined 19 points, closing at 20.33¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 19,	Jan. 18,	Jan. 19, 1925
	20 Industrials	153.81	155.98	122.35
	20 R.R. stocks	108.93	110.34	99.05

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 20.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 17 Section 1 January 21, 1926

DISTRICT FOOD LAWS BROADENED

The District of Columbia Commissioners yesterday adopted an amendment to the food regulations, on advice of Dr. William C.Fowler, health officer, making it easier to prosecute violators. Heretofore the section forbidding sale of meats, bakery goods, fruits and other foodstuffs, with special reference to those consumed without washing, paring or cooking, unless they were protected from flies and dust, applied only to "uninclosed" premises. Doctor Fowler told the Commissioners that the result of this was that the courts would only convict proprietors of booths in open markets or out of doors. He asked to have the word "uninclosed" stricken out and this was done. He says he now can proceed against proprietors of stores as well as booths and stands. The amendment will take effect in 30 days. (Press, Jan. 21.)

LONG AND SHORT HAUL

Seth Mann, representing the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, told the Senate interstate commerce committee yesterday passage of the Gooding "long and short haul" bill would work hardship on the California fruit industry. (Press, Jan. 21.)

FOOD PRODUCTS TARIFF INQUIRY ASKED

Representative Weller, in a letter to the Tariff Commission yesterday, urged an inquiry into the tariff on food products, with a view to invoking the flexible provisions of the tariff act. (Press, Jan. 21.)

THE TAX BILL

The tax reduction bill was reported to the Senate by the finance committee yesterday with a total tax cut of $352,661,000, or an addition of $25,500,000 to the $327,161,000 reduction made by the House bill. The estimated revenue for 1926, under the bill as it stands, is $2,396,339,000. (Press, Jan. 21.)

EGYPTIAN COTTON

An Associated Press dispatch from Cairo to-day states that the Makwar Dam, on the Blue Nile, far down in the Sudan, will be opened to-day. It will bring under irrigation 300,000 acres of the Gèzira Plain, which will be devoted to cotton raising. Egyptian officials estimate that in this area 40,000,000 pounds of cotton can be raised annually, thus providing a new cotton supply for the Lancashire mills, which draw most of their supply at present from the United States. Earl Kitchener first fostered the plan for a great dam in the Sudan. Work on this project was started in 1913. The dam is two miles long and will make a lake of fifty miles at its greatest dimension, holding 140,000,000,000 gallons of water. It cost 13,000,000 pounds.

Section 2

Agricultural Export Legislation

An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for January 13 says: "Representative McKinley, of Illinois, has introduced in Congress a bill providing for the payment of a bounty on exports of agricultural products in the form of reimbursement to the exporter of the amount of duty paid by the importing country. In detail, the bill provides for the issuance of debentures by the Treasury against exports of farm products, the debentures to be sold by the exporters to those desiring to pay duties on imports, for which purpose the Treasury would redeem them at par. Here, certainly, is a proposal which millers can support with great enthusiasm, providing, of course, it extends to include the fabricated products of farm crops. Duties applying on imports of flour have given American millers no end of trouble everywhere in the world. But for them a capital trade could be carried on, not only in clears and low grades but, surely, in patents and, obviously, in byproducts. This problem of duties would be neatly and effectively overcome by having them paid out of hand by the rich and benevolent Government of the United States....This scheme is ideally free from all of these annoying complications. It might, indeed, be possible to point out one little shortcoming; at least one thing which could be added to make it approach even nearer complete commercial bliss. The United States owns a great number of ships, which, despite their being parked in much of the available harbor space about the country, are still something of a problem. These might be used for carrying the goods to destination without any freight charge being imposed. With this trifle added, nothing whatever could be left to wish for. We would perforce have to get our flour and hams and one thing and another to the seaboard, but after that no expense or responsibility would attach to us. They would go neatly and freely to destination, sail right up to the dock, and a uniformed attendant would step up to the collector's office and pay the tax....."

Baby Chick Industry in Canada

The baby chick industry in Canada, whilst still in its infancy, is advancing by leaps and bounds, according to the Poultry Division of the Federal Department of Agriculture. During the past season many of the breeder hatcheries more than doubled their capacities, according to the same authority, and the prospects are that the same will take place within the coming year. Ontario and British Columbia are the two provinces where the hatchery business is being carried on in a fairly large way. Though no Government information is available on the extent of the activity in the Dominion, it is known that there are many large hatcheries in successful operation in Ontario and on the Pacific Coast. The Canadian Hatchery at Hamilton, Ontario, is probably the largest in the Dominion with a capacity of 60,000 eggs. Another at Port Credit in the same province had a capacity of 45,000 eggs and was extended in the past summer by the addition of another forty thousand egg capacity. Many other Ontario and British Columbia points have hatcheries with capacities from 30,000 eggs down to 2,500. This activity is considered the infant in the poultry industry with years of growth ahead, and it is believed the future is good for chicks. (Agric. and Indus. Progress in Canada, January).

orn Surplus

An editorial in The Price Current-Grain Reporter for January 13 says: "Of the numerous plans that have been proposed for the 'relief' of the corn farmer, the one urging greater use of the various products of corn, including corn sugar, appeals to us as being the best calculated to produce quick and permanent relief. Consumption of corn starch, corn sugar, corn syrup, corn oil, corn flakes, hominy, corn meal and perhaps

other products or by-products, could unquestionably be enormously increased by aggressive advertising and the farmers themselves can set the mark for the use of corn gluten feed. It can hardly be expected, however, that the newspapers, trade papers, and magazines will continue much longer to give their news columns to advertise the greater use of corn products, and we do not recall having seen an advertising item in the budget of any of the cooperative grain organizations. A half a cent a bushel, on that part of the corn crop which is used for foods, would give an advertising fund of from two and a half to three million dollars per year and that amount wisely spent would, we are confident, permanently banish the 'corn surplus bogey.'"

English Cereal Crops "Corn Growing in England" is the title of a lengthy article by Henry Rew in The Nineteenth Century and After for January. The term "corn" is used to designate cereal crops. The author says in part: "An approximate estimate of the present output of British agriculture(which the inquiries now in progress in connection with the Census of Production will render more trustworthy) shows that one-fourth of the total income from farming comes from the direct sale of crops, including corn, and that three-fourths come from the sale of animals and animal products. There are no comparable figures but the guess may be hazarded that fifty years ago a similar calculation would have reversed these proportions. There has been a revolution in English agriculture, the implications of which are far-reaching. Revolutions are of two kinds--the catastrophic and the gradual. The shifting of the center of agricultural gravity from corn to stock is the result of the steady pressure of economic forces, the significance of which has not always been recognized. It is in no way the consequence of deliberate action by the State. Indeed, successive Governments have proclaimed their sympathy with corn growing and their desire to see it flourish. It may be remarked, however, that while corn growers have had sympathy only, stockowners have had help. If a calculation could be made of the total amount of public money spent in extirpating, or at least minimizing, diseases of stock and in grants for the improvement of stock, and if to this were added the millions spent on prizes at agricultural shows, it would be found that the stock-breeding industry has been substantially subsidized. The corn grower has recently been recognized by the allocation of modest sums for plant breeding and improvement, but as compared with the assistance given to the improvement of stock the sums are infinitesimal. Yet an interesting debate at a farmers' club might arise as to the respective values to farmers of the Yeoman breed of wheat and any one of the numerous breeds of stock.....There are those who think that it is possible to return to the self-sufficiency of a century and a half ago and that the land which then supported seven or eight millions might now feed forty-five millions. No one disputes that it is possible, within economic limits, to increase considerably the productiveness of agricultural land if it were all fully utilized, but if it were used to its maximum potentiality it would still be necessary to depend largely on imported food of all kinds. It follows that the system of farming and the products of the land will be largely determined by world-wide competition."

Fertilizer Review The Daily Digest has received the January issue (Vol.1; No.1) of The Fertilizer Review, published by the National Fertilizer Association, Washington, D.C. The editor of the new monthly is Charles J. Brand, executive secretary and treasurer of the association. The contents of this

issue include;"County Agent Soil Programs"; "Wholesale Price Index Comparisons";;"Fertilizer Use and Cotton Yields"; "Consumption Trends in the South."

France's Textile Industries — France's textile industries, according to advices received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its French information service, have of late shown little activity as regards new business. The principal causes are the fluctuations of the exchange and the constant rise of prices on raw materials, as well as the fact that most of the mills already have enough orders booked for the first six months of this year. Imports of raw material, during the third quarter of 1925, have shown a marked increase for wool and flax only. The latter were 100% superior when compared to the same period in 1924, aggregating 166,579 metric quintals as against 83,043 metric quintals, while imports in wool and worsted were 546,650 metric quintals as against 431,618 metric quintals in the third quarter of 1924 and 464,991 metric quintals in the second quarter of 1925. Imports of raw cotton totalled 475,576 metric quintals as against 716,881 metric quintals in the preceding quarter and 299,680 metric quintals in 1924. Exports in raw materials were less active than in the preceding quarter but when compared with the corresponding period of 1924 wool and worsted showed a slight increase (94,896 metric quintals as against 90,913 metric quintals); flax exports aggregated 591,160 metric quintals as against 486,635 metric quintals, and cotton 69,650 metric quintals as against 50,766 metric quintals. Exports in woven goods show an increase on all articles except cotton, woolen and silk fabrics.

New Canadian Wheat — "A new wheat named 'Garnet' has been developed at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Ottawa, and will be available for distribution this spring, which it is conservatively stated may have the effect of revolutionizing again wheat growing in Western Canada. No more could be said of the potentiality claimed for this new variety than that it will probably have a stimulation as great as when Marquis wheat was first developed and made available to farmers." (Agric. and Indus. Progress in Canada, January.)

Retail Food Prices — The retail food index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor shows for December 15, 1925, a decrease of one per cent since November 15, 1925; an increase of over nine per cent since December 15, 1924; and an increase of about fifty-nine and a third per cent since November 15, 1913. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 167.1 in November and 165.5 in December, 1925.

Rubber Prices — A London dispatch to the press of January 19 says: "Depression spread over the raw rubber market in Mincing Lane January 18 on publication of figures showing stocks to be 1,537 tons higher at 8,798. This following larger American figures caused a fall of 2 pence (4 cents) a pound in spot rubber to 38 1/4 pence (76 1/2 cents)."

Trade Agreements — Bulletin No. 393, entitled "Trade Agreements, 1923 and 1924," has been recently issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. This is the first bulletin issued by the bureau that is devoted entirely to agreements between employers and employees. During the years 1923 and 1924 the Bureau received about four thousand agreements, of which about 175 appear in this bulletin.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 20: Grain prices quoted January 20: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.72 to $1.85. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.96. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.87. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 69 to 72¢; No.4 mixed corn Chicago 72 1/4 to 73 1/2¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 74 to 80¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 39¢; St. Louis 43 3/4¢.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.40 for the top; bulk of sales $11.40 to $12.35; beef steers choice $10.50 to $12; heifers, good and choice $7 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.40 to $7.75; canners and cutters $4 to $4.85; vealers, medium to choice $6.75 to $9; stockers and feeder steers, common to choice $5.85 to $8.85; fat lambs medium to choice $13.50 to $15.40; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.25 to $13.50; fat ewes, common to choice $5.75 to $9.50; feeding lambs, medium to choice $14 to $15.60.

New York and Pennsylvania Round White potatoes $4.15 to $5 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities. New York yellows $2.50 to $3 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern markets, $2.50 to $2.65.f.o.b. Rochester. Cabbage ranged $5 to $10 lower in consuming centers. New York Danish type $45 to $65 bulk per ton in terminal markets, $50 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern stock $50 to $55 track sales in Chicago. New York Baldwin apples $4 to $5 per barrel in leading markets. Rhode Island Greenings $4.25 to $5.50 in distributing centers.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 44 1/2¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 44 1/2¢; Boston 44 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 30 points during the week, closing at 20.18¢ per lb. New York March future contracts advanced 36 points, closing at 20.28¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Jan. 20,	Jan. 19,	Jan. 20, 1925
	20 Industrials	155.04	153.81	171.74
	20 R.R. stocks	109.22	108.93	98.46

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 21.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XX, No. 18 Section 1 January 22, 1926.

THE SECRETARY'S ADDRESS

An Associated Press dispatch from Urbana, Ill., to-day says: "Admitting that the 'agricultural surplus problem' does exist and that it can be solved, William M. Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture, went a step farther than his chief, President Coolidge, and in an address before the Illinois Agriculture Association here yesterday indicated a changing attitude in Washington. Before the American Farm Bureau Federation in Chicago, December 8, President Coolidge virtually denied there was 'a surplus problem.' Yesterday his Secretary of Agriculture admitted that surplus production is pulling down agricultural prices and pleaded for 'sympathetic consideration' while the Government grappled with the 'undeniable economic conditions back of the problem.'...."

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION DISCUSSED

The Washington Post to-day reports: "This country can not afford to let itself become industrialized at the expense of agriculture, Representative Dickinson declared at the installation exercises of the local grange in the City Club last night. He told the 'city farmers' that the real problem of the West was to raise agriculture to a parity with industry. Senator Capper, of Kansas, declared he had been converted to the Dickinson bill. He expressed his conviction that the surplus problem was the most important agricultural problem that would come up before Congress this session. ...No reference to the Dickinson bill was made by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture R. W. Dunlap, who also addressed the grange. He discussed farm legislation generally, cautioning those present against measures bordering upon price fixing...."

BREAD MAKING COMBINE REPORTED

A New York dispatch to the Washington Post to-day says: "In the near future announcement is to be made of a bread making combine that will include all the correlated products in the manufacture of the 'staff of life.' Wall Street heard yesterday that William B.Ward would head a large food products company being organized to embrace sugar, flour, yeast, salt, milk and other ingredients....The primary object of the new combine, it is said, is to reduce the cost of bread and pass the saving on to the public. Quantity production had been carried as far as practicable, it was considered...."

THE GOODING BILL

A favorable report was ordered yesterday by the Senate interstate commerce committee on the Gooding bill which would prohibit the present practice of the railroads charging a greater freight rate on a short haul than on a long haul. The measure is designed primarily to stop what is described as discrimination against the intermountain territory in favor of the Pacific territory by the transcontinental carriers in their effort to meet water competition from the Atlantic to the Pacific via Panama Canal. (Press, Jan.22.)

AUSTRALIAN COTTON CONTROL BOARD

A Brisbane dispatch to the press to-day states that the Queensland Government has decided to form a cotton control board. The board will deal with seed cotton produced in Queensland. It will function for a period of five years from January 1, 1927.

Section 2

Agricultural Credit

L. F. Easterbrook, writing on agricultural cooperation in The Nineteenth Century and After for January, says: "The ideal form of credit for agriculture would be a combination of cooperative credit associations working in conjunction with the stock banks; and in Germany, the home of cooperative credit, the stock banks fully realize that, far from being in opposition to them, cooperative credit banks are a very useful adjunct, especially as the farmers' banks are usually in funds at times of the year when there are heavy calls upon the industrial banks, and vice versa. Such thorough cooperation brings business to the stock banks, and saves them from having large deposits lying idle at certain periods, and at the same time has a most healthy effect upon the cooperative banks in causing them to take the fullest precautions to ensure security and to be businesslike in order to keep the faith and support that the stock banks give them. But the whole movement turns on making credit easy and security difficult, on encouraging people to borrow, but choosing and creating a reliable class of borrower. This can only be done by united effort and the will to cooperate, and though there is little doubt that something very approximate to this system must be introduced into England if small holding is ever to be satisfactorily established, yet here, again, the mentality of the larger farmer does not offer great hope of its successful adaptation for him. There is divided opinion in this question as to whether the State or private enterprise backed by the banks should introduce a cooperative credit system, and in private enterprise cooperation is naturally included. Theoretically the arguments are on the side of private enterprise."

Agricultural Legislation

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for January 20 says: "As time passes and as the sundry agricultural blocs in Congress more and more clearly show themselves utterly unable to agree among themselves upon any consistent and comprehensive farm legislative program, it appears more and more likely that this session of the national legislature, like the last, will do just about exactly nothing with respect to the much advertised difficulties of the farm producer. Relatively certain it is at any rate that nothing of a soundly constructive nature is likely to be undertaken, and since this is true it is probably just as well that the situation be left about where it has been for the past two or three years. Yet forward-looking students of national agricultural and other conditions find it difficult to obtain much satisfaction from a policy that thus leaves bad enough alone. Let there be no misunderstanding of this matter. The agriculturists of this country have some real ills of which to complain, even if most of the farmers themselves and their self-styled friends reveal practically no understanding of the true nature of these troubles and are inclined to exaggerate them and to propose inadequate, essentially irrelevant and positively harmful remedies. First and foremost, the farmer is not suffering primarily, if in reality, at all from depressed prices, much thundering in the index to the contrary notwithstanding. This general statement holds as well for such commodities as cotton and corn as for cattle and hogs. It is safe to say that no important agricultural commodity produced in this country is to-day bringing a price that is not at least very comfortably higher than pre-war prices, that does not compare reasonably well with the general average of prices in this country and that does not make a positively excellent showing as compared with prices outside of the much protected United States. Facts such as these ought to dispose once for all of the sundry schemes for improving marketing machinery, holding crops of the market to force high prices and the like as

remedies for the most pressing and the most serious difficulties with which the farmer now finds himself faced....As for efforts to corner markets, they ought to be anathema to the farmers as well as the country at large at any time. The burden at present imposed upon the agriculturist arises out of excessively and needlessly high production costs. These high expense ratios are, in turn, apart from inflated land values and imperfect technical operation--both problems that the farmers must of necessity by slow and laborious methods solve for themselves--the result chiefly of two factors: First, high labor charges, and second, the dearness of manufactured products that the farmer must have either for proficient operation or reasonably comfortable living conditions for himself and his family....Yet, if the truth must be told, nothing more than a few random suggestions looking in this direction have at any time been heard in Washington. It is not surprising that the administration and its immediate followers have not discovered the true inwardness of this situation and come forward with appropriate remedies..."

British Agriculture

Country Life (London) for January 9 says: "Economists and others have given much thought to investigating the weak places in the present agricultural system, and the conclusion that self-help rather than spoon-feeding is more than ever necessary, appears to be general in well-informed quarters. This is, undoubtedly, the dilemma in which the Government is placed at the moment. The bugbear of the agricultural industry is foreign competition, and the only way to avoid it, in the eyes of the farmers' organization, is that agricultural produce shall be included within the Safeguarding of Industries scheme. This, however, would violate electoral pledges, for there is a strange lack of understanding displayed by the average townsman as to the difficulties experienced in the country districts, and 'dearer food' is not a policy which any political party could survive. It is to be hoped, however, that steps will be taken to foster the principle of cooperation, in order that some alternative policy may be evolved whereby the home producer will be able to claim a higher percentage of the retail selling price than is now the rule. This would seem to be the most vital problem demanding solution. Many far-seeing individuals have solved this by eliminating some of the profit-absorbing agencies, but, in its widest meaning, it is clearly a field for mass attack rather than individual attack. This has been clearly shown by the reports on cooperative buying and marketing, both in the United States and in this country, which the Ministry of Agriculture has issued in 1925."

French Immigration and Agriculture

The limitation of immigration to the United States and post-war conditions have combined to produce a marked effect upon the population composing several European countries notably France. Foreign immigration to France which had been steadily growing during the years which preceded the war, has been particularly important since the Armistice, according to information received by the Bankers Trust Company from its foreign information service. The "Main d'Oeuvre Agricole" has just published a detailed statement of the number of foreign farmers established in France in 1922. At that date 334,369 hectares or 8% of the whole cultivated area of the country were occupied by 12,265 foreign farming establishments. Of these establishments 5,038 belonged to Belgians, 2,807 to Spaniards, 2,359 to Italians, 1,845 to people of Germanic or Slav origin (Swiss, Austrians, Dutch, Germans, Swedes, Norwegians, Poles, Czechoslovaks) and 256 others belonging to representatives of other

nationalities, Russians, English, Americans, the two latter principally in the region of Pau and on the Riviera. The two most important streams of immigrants are the Belgians in the North and the Italians and Swiss in the South West.

Population Growth

"The Biology of Population Growth" by Raymond Pearl is reviewed in The New York Times for January 17. This says in part: "Professor Pearl has devoted nearly five years to an effort to determine whether the growth of populations was governed by a law sufficiently definite to be expressed in mathematical terms....The law is that growth occurs in cycles, beginning slowly, the increment per unit of time increasing through the first half of the cycle, then gradually decreasing until completion of the cycle. The rate of growth at any stage is proportional to the size of the original unit of population and to the amount of resources available for its support. In the case of human populations, the second element is highly variable, sustenance increasing with improved methods of agriculture, manufacture and trade. It was the coming of the industrial revolution, with its infinite enlargement of the wealth of Europe and America, that Malthus failed to take into his calculations. Professor Pearl is confident that this insight into the law of population growth makes it possible to predict--'upon a more adequate scientific basis than mere guesswork'--the course of future populations. This he has done in his essay, with the qualification, of course, that any marked increase in resources would spoil his forecast as regards the size of populations."

Rubber Restriction

Hartley Withers is the author of an extensive article on "Industry and Officialism--British Rubber Restriction--Mr. Hoover's Inconsistent Attitude" in The Commercial and Financial Chronicle for January 16. He says in part: "At the instigation of Mr. Hoover, whose services to impoverished Europe at the time of after-war exhaustion give him a world-wide prestige, the House of Representatives ordered an investigation into the effects on American commerce of control of rubber, coffee, silk, nitrates and other important raw materials. But as far as can be gathered from a telegram in the 'Times' of December 23, describing the debate, the Stevenson scheme of rubber restriction was the target on which the heavy guns of oratory poured most of their shells. The scheme is a matter on which volumes might be written without convincing anybody. For it, it may be said that some such arrangement was essential if a large number of plantations were to be prevented from going back to jungle, to the ruin of their owners and to the ultimate disadvantage of consumers, because the consequent restriction would have been drastic and permanent. Against it, from the producer's point of view, one can point to the fact that it briskly stimulated the production of rubber in the territories where it was not enforced. But the point that concerns us now is that if the scheme had been arranged by the industry itself without the employment of the official machinery through the export tax, American critics would have had much less reason for attacks on the British Government and for a revival of the time-honored pastime of 'twisting the British lion's tail.'....But it is not good for good feeling between countries, when it is stated in Congress that the British Government are 'openly proclaiming that they propose during the next six years to collect four billion dollars by this process, enough to wipe out their debt to us.' As the British Government does not own or grow rubber, and as even those who grow it, many of whom are Dutchmen or natives, do not pocket the whole of the gross price, but only the net profit, the statement is fairly fantastic...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Jan. 21: Eastern Round White potatoes $4.25 to $4.65 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern markets; $4.05 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Baldwin apples $3.50 to $5 per barrel in consuming centers. Common storage stock $3.50 f.o.b. Rochester. New York yellow onions $2.25 to $3 packed per 100 pounds in eastern markets; $2.50 to $2.60 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage $50 to $60 bulk per ton in consuming centers; $50 to $55 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type $50 to $55 in Chicago.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.50 for the top; bulk of sales $11.70 to $12.40; beef steers choice $10.65 to $12; heifers, good and choice $6.25 to $7.75; canners and cutters $4 to $4.85; vealers, medium to choice $10.25 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.75 to $9; stockers and feeder steers, common to choice $5.85 to $9; fat lambs, medium to choice $13.25 to $15.25; yearling wethers $10.25 to $13.75; fat ewes, common to choice $5.75 to $9.50; feeding lambs, medium to choice $14 to $15.60.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 45¢ Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 45 1/2¢; Boston 45¢.

Grain prices quoted January 21: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.69 to $1.82. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.93 1/2. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.85; Chicago $1.79. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 68 to 71¢. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 79¢; No.4 mixed corn Chicago 71 1/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 73 to 79¢; St. Louis 77¢. No.3 white corn St. Louis 76 1/2¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 38 1/2¢; St. Louis 43 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 25 points during the week, closing at 20.15¢ per lb. New York March future contracts 20 points, closing at 20.17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Jan. 21,	Jan. 20,	Jan. 21, 1925
20 Industrials	153.20	155.04	122.11
20 R.R. stocks	108.26	109.22	98.49

(Wall St. Jour., Jan. 22.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XX, No. 19 Section 1 January 23, 1926

THE PRESIDENT ASKS TUBERCULOSIS IN-DEMNITY FUND

President Coolidge yesterday sent a communication to Congress requesting a fund of $350,000 with which to pay indemnity for cattle slaughtered in fighting tuberculosis. (Press, Jan. 23.)

COOPERATIVE MARKETING BILL

By unanimous consent the House yesterday agreed to give privileged status to the Haugen cooperative marketing bill. It is expected to be taken up to-day. The measure, embodying the administration's plan for a division of cooperative marketing in the Agricultural Department, will be in order as soon as the Navy Department appropriation bill is disposed of, and it is the hope of leaders that general debate on the Haugen bill will be concluded before week-end adjournment tonight. This would virtually insure a vote on the bill Monday. (Press, Jan. 23.)

GRAZING FEES

Creation of a board to fix grazing fees in national forests is proposed in a bill introduced in the House yesterday by Representative Colton, according to the press to-day.

LOWDEN ON FARM CONDITIONS

At Urbana, Ill., Frank O. Lowden, in an address before the Ill. Agricultural Association convention yesterday, advocated a Federal farm board to regulate crop production for the farmer, as the Federal Reserve Board adjusts Nation-wide credit facilities for the industrial world. Acting through cooperative groups representing certain crops, such a farm board, he said, might expect to prevent the "ruinous over-production," which from time to time confronts agricultural producers, "turning the surplus of the very essentials of life from a burden into a blessing." Continuing, Mr. Lowden said that the farmer is always confronted with this dilemna: "If he produce too little the world will go hungry and naked; if he produce too much, the surplus for the time may break the price he receives for his product to a point where it would have been better for him to let his fields lie fallow."

OAT HULLS AND CORN COBS

Farmers in the near future will be raising oats for the hulls, according to Dr. William J. Hale, chairman of the division of chemistry and chemical technology of the National Research Council, who last night addressed the Maryland section of the American Chemical Society in Baltimore. Doctor Hale said that oat hulls and cornhusks formed the basis of furfural, a chemical composition which, he predicted, would be used for a great variety of purposes when its usefulness became known more generally. Corncobs and cornhusks, he said, eventually will form the basis for a kind of pliable cement, which will be used for roadways. (Press, Jan. 23.)

Section 2

Agricultural Conditions

An editorial in World's Work for February says: "Mr. Coolidge's conclusion that agricultural conditions, after all, are fairly satisfactory and constantly getting better, has not been re-echoed by the farmers themselves. His statement that the tariff does not materially increase the cost of things the farmers buy--not more than 2 per cent--has not fallen upon acquiescent ears. His decision that the Government will have nothing to do with any plan that suggests price fixing, or the use of the Federal Treasury for farm relief, has been similarly displeasing. The administration's policy for some scheme of cooperative marketing strikes the farmers as stale, vague, and unsatisfactory...Four years ago, Representative Garner of Texas, in a discussion of the pending public buildings bill, made a classic remark that summed up the situation more eloquently than a thousand speeches or editorials. 'Every time those Yankees get a ham,' he exclaimed, 'we Southerners are going to get a hog.' One of the greatest economic problems of America--the future of our agricultural region--has apparently reached the same plane. The particular 'hog' demanded by the farmers is some kind of a Federal bounty on the exported surplus of their products. This is, of course, the germ idea of the McNary-Haugen scheme, which has been under consideration now for two years. If the American public, especially the agricultural public, is to be taxed, even indirectly, for the benefit of the manufacturers, then the manufacturers are to be taxed for the benefit of the farmers....If the existing tariff is a great injustice the remedy does not consist in erecting still another injustice, such as a Federal bounty to wheat growers. The only thing to do is to remove the wrong of which the farmers complain, if it is a wrong. Undoubtedly President Coolidge represented national sentiment when he took his stand against Federal appropriations for farm relief. The precedent would be a perilous one. Why not Government aid to adjust wages in industry or compensate manufacturers for their losses? The proposal is not worth a moment's consideration. That the farmer may have a real grievance in the existing tariff and that real statesmanship in the situation consists in alleviating it, is, however, a point worthy of careful inquiry."

British Botany Institute

Although still in its infancy, the National Institute of Agricultural Botany promises to serve a very useful purpose, particularly in accurately investigating the yields and quality of the different varieties of farm crops. Experimental work has undergone many changes in the last few years. In fact, judged in the light of modern methods, many of the old-time and much-quoted experiments can be said to be hardly worth the paper they are written upon. This is, naturally, disquieting, and would seem to suggest that much will have to be done over again, and that many so-called experiments are merely demonstrations. Thus, we now have the half-drill strip method of testing new varieties of cereals against a control variety; while, in the case of potatoes, the chequer-board system is put into operation. The application of these methods in practice is a feature of the tests of new varieties of barleys, wheat, spring oats, and potatoes, conducted under the direction of the Institute of Agricultural Botany, the 1924 results of which have just been published in Journal No. 4, 1925, National Institute of Agricultural Botany, Cambridge. (Country Life (London) Jan.9.)

Cooperation in Britain L. F. Easterbrook makes a rejoinder to an attack upon a previous article on agricultural cooperation in England (The Nineteenth Century and After, September, 1925) in The Nineteenth Century and After for January. In this he says in part: "In replying to my article on the failure of agricultural cooperation in this country, I can not help feeling that Mr. Hart-Synnot has been a little more acrimonious than the strength of his case required, and I fear he has construed my attempt to analyze the position and to suggest a possible alternative as an attack upon the movement. Had this been my object, the article might have been far more trenchant; but I can assure Mr. Hart-Synnot that I agree with every word he says as to the merits of cooperation in theory but after studying it for seven years at first hand I have come to the reluctant conclusion that it will never really succeed for the larger farmers of England, nor for anyone, by the present methods practiced....Attempts are now being made to reconcile theory with practice in the movement, but it is possible that even these may fail; and, therefore, I consider it not only legitimate to discuss an alternative method, but even helpful to cooperation through the necessity of noting what cooperation omits that another method might give. I have never doubted that, in theory, cooperation is the best way for farmers in any country to do business....I consider that half a loaf is better than no bread, and differ absolutely from his opinion that farmers would be better off as they are in their independent dealings with middlemen than by working together as members of a farmers' joint-stock company....The point now arises as to whether, failing the establishment of cooperation upon sound lines, the farmer would be better off standing alone and dependent upon middlemen, as Mr. Hart-Synnot maintains, or selling and buying through joint stock companies in which he holds shares and has special voting powers conferred upon him, so that he has a certain amount of control in their administration. I think the first thing that has to be realized is that no one, not even the much-maligned middleman, is making great profit out of agriculture. If the middleman were doing as well as is sometimes imagined, there would be even less excuse for so many cooperative trading societies (which are not out for profits) to be in such financial straits. The cooperative bacon factories give an even better illustration of this, for their difficulty in getting a foothold has been the difficulty of paying a competitive price for pigs. In other words, there is so much competition in England for pigs that the privately owned factories are already paying the full market value of them. The money that is to be saved by collective marketing, therefore, is saved by marketing which is more efficient, out of buying and selling on a larger scale, and out of better grading of goods, but not, to any extent, out of the excessive profits of the individual agents who perform the function of the farmers' societies. Theoretically cooperation ought to secure these things; practically, in England, it does not, for a variety of causes, most of which I have already mentioned in my previous article." (An excerpt from the original article was given in Daily Digest for September 22, 1925.)

Corn and Butter An editorial in The Dairy Record for January 13 says: "The butter industry is vitally concerned in what happens to corn prices. Mr. A. L. Haecker, secretary of the Nebraska Improvement Association, estimates that corn fed to the cow will return approximately $1.50 a bushel, at present butter prices. If butterfat prices continue to be good, it is certain that a considerable part of the 1925 corn crop will

be marketed through the dairy cow, unless there is a marked recovery in corn prices. This, in turn, will mean more butter. That education of the farmer appears to be the basis for any permanent solution of the agricultural problem is indicated by figures compiled by Mr. Haecker... This is merely another indication that a huge number of farmers are not prepared to market their corn as butterfat or beef or pork, if grain prices are unsatisfactory. The efficient manufacturer, who had as many outlets for his products as have the farmers, would divert his production from an unprofitable outlet to a more profitable one, but there are still a big percentage of farmers who continue to market only one commodity. When that market is depressed, they face bankruptcy and their so-called leaders cry to the Government for aid, when about the only real aid the Government can give them is to help them to help themselves."

National Arboretum " There is urgent need in nursery and scientific circles for a collection of the trees of the world, such as is proposed in the Luce bill providing for the establishment in Washington of a national arboretum, members of the House committee on agriculture were told at a hearing on the measure January 19 by Robert Pyle, representing the American Association of Nurserymen, and others who appeared in support of the measure. Mr. Pyle emphasized the importance of the arboretum in the work of standardizing plant nomenclature. There is need for a central station in which can be assembled the plants from other nations for study and experimentation, he said, calling attention to the fact that the experiments carried on in the proposed arboretum would prove helpful from an economic standpoint. The need of a 'laboratory' for the study of needs was discussed by Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. He pointed out that there is still a vast amount of research work to be done in the field of biology and plant life, asserting that there is probably more knowledge to be gained from those sources than from the physical sciences, and that the arboretum would furnish an excellent agency for making this research..." (Florists Exchange, Jan. 23.)

Orange Growers Protest Cooperative associations and exchanges described as representing 90 per cent of the orange growers of California, filed a complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission Jan. 21 against all railroads combining for the haul of oranges to New England, New York and New Jersey territory. The chief allegation was against the practice of the eastern railroads in assessing a 3-cent-per-hundred-pounds terminal charge. This extra burden was not borne, the complaint said, by shippers of other fruit competing with oranges. (Press, Jan. 22.)

Russian Conditions An editorial in The New York Times for January 20 says: "As a result of the decisive defeat of the radical wing at the recent congress of the Russian Communist Party the London press hears that Soviet Russia is showing distinct signs of prosperity. It is a bit early to look for the concrete effects of a decision arrived at only a fortnight ago. Yet for the future course of developments in Russia the victory of the Communist moderates under Joseph Stalin is of the highest significance. It seems to mark the end of the prolonged game which the Communist cat has been playing with the mouse of private initiative. Beginning with Lenin's New Economic Policy in 1921, the Bolshevist rulers have repeatedly made concessions to private enterprise, but snatched them away in a new onset of Communist orthodoxy....Economic recovery in Russia is conditioned on

agricultural productivity. Even if industry were functioning with perfect efficiency, the peasant must remain for a great many years the basic factor of the economic life. With industry actually creaking and operating at a loss and fed by subventions from the Soviet Treasury, the only source of wealth is in the fields and forests. If a few months ago the Soviet rulers were framing dazzling plans of industrial expansion and magnificent import programs, the reason was in what promised to be an extraordinarily successful crop. But the crop, though still good, has not come up to expectations. The great import program is gone, Russia's wheat exports will be small. And Russia's internal policies will continue to be increasingly shaped by those who grow and control the wheat. At Moscow, then, the drift is steadily away from Communist doctrine...."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Jan. 22: Eastern Round White potatoes $3.90 to $4.85 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern markets; $4.05 f.o.b. Rochester. Maine sacked Green Mountains $4.50 to $4.65. New York Danish type cabbage about $10 lower at a range of $50 to $60 bulk per ton in distributing centers and $50 f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland sweet potatoes, yellow varieties $1.75 to $2.50 in leading terminal markets. New Jersey stock $2.50 to $3 in a few cities. New York Baldwin apples $3.50 to $5 per barrel in consuming centers. Common storage stock $3.50 to $3.75 f.o.b. Rochester.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13 for the top; bulk of sales $11.80 to $12.60; beef steers choice $10.65 to $12; heifers, good and choice $6.75 to $10.75; cows, good and choice $6.25 to $7.75; common and medium $4.85 to $6.25; canners and cutters, $4 to $4.85; vealers, medium and choice $10.25 to $13.50; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.75 to $9; stockers and feeders, common to choice $5.85 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $13.25 to $15.25; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.25 to $13.25; fat ewes, common to choice $5.75 to $9.50; feeding lambs, medium to choice $14 to $15.50.

Grain prices quoted January 22: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.67 to $1.79. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.92 1/2; Kansas City $1.85. No.3 red winter Kansas City $1.77. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.82. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 69 to 72¢; Kansas City 72¢. No.4 mixed corn Chicago 72 1/2¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 73 to 80¢; St. Louis 76¢; Kansas City 73 3/4¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 73 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 42¢; Minneapolis 38 1/4¢; St. Louis 43 1/4¢; Kansas City 42 3/4¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 45¢; Chicago 43 1/2¢; Philadelphia 45 1/2¢; Boston 45 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 11 points, closing at 20.04¢ per lb. New York March future contracts declined 8 points, closing at 20.09¢. (Preapred by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Former Secretary of Agriculture, David F. Houston, presents the first installment in a series entitled "Eight Years With Wilson: 1913--1921," taken from his forthcoming book, in World's Work for February. Regarding his acceptance of the office of Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Houston says in part: "I was not apprehensive as to the work of the office or as to my general duties. I had been more or less in touch with the Department of Agriculture for a number of years and had been dealing with the problems which it had to consider. I knew that its main function was to promote more efficient production, to improve the processes of marketing, to create better credit facilities for the farmer, to make rural life more profitable and attractive, and to make more of the benefits of modern science accrue to the rural population. In that way only could we be sure of retaining in the rural districts of this country a sufficient number of contented, efficient, and reasonably prosperous people. I was aware, too, that the farmers' more acute problems were in the field of economics and in this field I was particularly interested. It was one which the economists as a rule had neglected. In a word, I knew that the task was one of the conservation of men and women and boys and girls in our rural districts and that it required higher intelligence and better practices. Walter H. Page was fully aware of the nature of the problem and, therefore, I wanted to see him appointed to the position and said so. Later I discovered that he was urging me for the place. I wish I had been able to prevail. I had said that the department was the one great developmental agency of the Government and that it would interest me, and I believed it would interest Page more than any other man. It was the call which came to head this department that made me willing to interrupt my work in St. Louis, which afforded a great opportunity to do something constructive in a section of the country in which it was well worth doing."

THE CARAWAY BILL

Representatives of the cotton business and exchanges told the Senate agricultural committee January 23 that if the Caraway bill prohibiting trading in futures becomes law cotton exchanges would have to close. (Press, Jan. 24.)

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION BILL

The agricultural appropriation bill was reported to the House on January 23, according to the press of January 24.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR ON RUBBER RESTRICTION

An Associated Press dispatch from New York January 24 says: "An explanation of 'this pother about rubber,' coupled with the assertion that the law restricting British rubber exports would be found, in the long run, to have operated for the benefit not only of the planters, but also for the consumers, was given January 23 by Sir Esme Howard, British Ambassador at Washington, addressing the New York Advertising club....."

Section 2

Cooperation Abroad

The Field (London) for January 7 says: "In the course of a letter home, an Englishman now farming in New South Wales writes: 'It seems extraordinary to me that in England you can buy a good farm with wonderful outbuildings and home on it for 30 pounds an acre with a market at your door, while here we are paying in the rich and safe (from drought) districts as much as 15 pounds an acre for grazing land, which will only run two sheep to the acre with safety.' It is, on the face of it, rather extraordinary, and it would seem on this consideration alone that a farmer here could not help making his fortune. But unfortunately this seeming advantage of proximity to the world's largest markets has proved the most formidable obstacle to proper marketing organization. Overseas producers, thousands of miles distant from centers of population, have been forced to combine forces in order to build up a good connection with the consumer. The home producer with the market at his door has experienced no such stimulus to grade and standardize his products, and so his business organization is far behind that of his competitors. The home producer's methods are not quite so haphazard as some critics would have us believe; but he has no conception of orderly marketing, as it is understood in the United States and some of the Dominions. In this country it has generally been found difficult to secure the consistent loyalty of farmers to their marketing organizations when alternate markets may be offering temporary advantages. Loyalty through thick and thin is essential to the success of any marketing organization and pays in the long run; but it takes some determination and foresight on the part of the individual situated as the British farmer is. The developments of collective bargaining in respect of milk, wool and hops show the possibilities of combination in this country and point the way; but the home producer's position at the door of a market fed lavishly from overseas has distinct disadvantages. The price which his produce fetches is dependent upon overseas supplies, and he can have little idea of the state of the market from month to month....'"

Corn Sugar

An editorial in The Miami Herald for January 19 says:"....There should never be a surplus of corn. This grain, it is said, has a hundred and sixty by-products. If it can not be sold for food or fodder, something ought to be made by way of developing these by-products. One of these is sugar. For a long time it was supposed that corn sugar was deleterious to health. Recent investigations show that it is not, but that, on the contrary, it is one of the most easily digested forms of sugar. It is also reasonably cheap to produce, and might certainly be made for less than is paid for the millions of pounds of sugar which are imported. The corn growers might be aided if the Government would remove the ban which has been placed on corn sugar. There seems no reason why it should continue to exist if corn sugar is as good or better than cane or beet sugar. It may be possible to develop in the corn belt a new industry as important, at least, as is the growing of beets and the manufacture of 'short sweetening' from them."

Cost Accounting for British Farmers

The Field (London) for January 7 says: "For several years past a few private individuals have kept details of the cost of production on their farms, but it is only since the war that the State has stepped in to encourage this practice. The first official attempt was made at the end of the war, through the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Agriculture, with a view to securing reliable statistics by which the

economic condition of the farming industry could be judged. This effort was short-lived, being soon abandoned on the score of national economy. But with the repeal of the Corn Production Act the sum of 1,000,000 pounds was made available in 1922 for agricultural education and research, and part of this money was devoted to the development of a State-aided costings system. The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture, and at the end of the year no less than eleven centers had been established to study farm economics and help local farmers with their accounts. The objects are, firstly to provide the Government with a means of gauging the economic position of the different types of farming and their relative value to the community, secondly to demonstrate to farmers the economies which can be effected in the running of the farm through keeping separate and accurate accounts for the different crops and stock, and thirdly to persuade the less enlightened farmers to keep simple books which can help them to eliminate waste...."

Migratory Bird Law

An editorial in Forest and Stream for February says: "...The creation of refuges for migratory birds is as much an obligation of the migratory bird law treaty as the cessation of spring shooting. It is a national obligation to be handled in a national way. The sportsmen of this country up to the present have borne the principal burden of conservation. They should not, however, be asked to bear it always. Congress is seriously at fault if it overlooks the fact that the recreational interest of the United States, although neither centralized nor political, is nevertheless one of the most important industries of the country. The migratory bird law and allied conservation projects can not be dismissed as the pet subject of a group of gun cranks or nature lovers. It is a respectable majority of the whole people with whom they have to deal. It is well to bear in mind in presenting these questions to your Congressman, that the outdoor expenditures of this Nation total over $2,000,000,000, a sum that ranks recreation in its multifarious forms with the first three greatest industries of largest magnitude. Numerically, the number of people whose interests are affected is larger than any other occupation, including farming. The laxity which has marked the conduct of the United States with solemn treaty agreements with Canada should be corrected, and the time has arrived for a firm demand to be made upon the Government for a policy that will look forward to the acquisition of stretches of marshlands and waterways along the flight ways of migratory birds. These areas do more than shelter bird life, they are of tremendous economic importance in preserving our waterways and insuring an adequate rainfall for the agricultural interests.....It is time that sportsmen abandon their diffident, apologetic attitude toward Congress. National conservation is Government business, and in this case the fulfillment of our migratory bird law obligations becomes a matter of national honor."

Milk Merger

Referring to the recent merger of the Sheffield Farms Company and the National Dairy Products Company, an editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for January 14 says: "It is only natural that the forward movement of this gigantic merger should be a matter of serious interest to dairymen throughout the country. In fact, there are those who already see big problems in connection with it looming up. This is particularly true in case of the producers' cooperative organizations, such as the New York Dairymen's League, with its 40,000 members. It is conceded that some of the distributing concerns are going into the merger as a means of escape from the growing power of the organized producers. With its hands reaching out in all directions for its supply, it will be in a strong position

to declare its independence of local producers. The country will be a checker board in its hand and the dairymen of the country will have to go some to checkmate its moves. Everyone has his own right as to his conclusions for the coming into existence of these gigantic business enterprises Some hold that it is in keeping with the economics of the times. Big business consolidations, they tell us, are the order of the day. Others attribute them to simple greed. There are those also who contend that it is in the line of self-protection and that smaller units in some lines of business find the pressure from producers' organizations too strong for their existence. All of which proves that we never get to the end of problems in this life; the law of competition can not be escaped."

Rubber Reclamation Machine — A Lyons, France, dispatch to the press of January 23 states that a visit made January 22 to the Lyons factory of Eugene Royer, a French engineer who recently announced he had perfected a method of eliminating the by-products from old rubber and devulcanizing it, revealed a practical appliance for utilizing a catalyzer for stilling in the elementary stage, although the inventor maintains fully all claims previously made. One of the European representatives of Secretary Hoover is at Lyons investigating the inventor's claims and antecedents. M. Royer holds a French patent, No. 204,530, issued in Paris May 30, 1925, covering all countries signatories of the Berne Convention.

Standardization — An editorial in Western Breeders' Journal for January 14 says: "Up in the State of Washington at a county agents' conference the other day standardization of milk and cream grades, wool, eggs and potatoes was discussed. Producers' cooperative organizations have been doing very good work, in several instances, in establishing standard grades, work that has been profitable for both producers and consumers. The egg marketing associations have made a great deal of progress along this line, as have others. Of course, some sort of grading is done in any case. Wherever the producer sells to someone who passes the product along, by various routes, to the consumer, he is quite sure to be subjected to grades. He is at a disadvantage, however, when the grading is done by others. His cooperative can help him a great deal in this respect; our wool growers too little appreciate the value of what has been done along this line by the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers Association. The United States Department of Agriculture has tried, with considerable success, to establish certain standard meat grades at the stockyards. Unfortunately, however, this doesn't do the producer very much good as long as the grading gets no further than the stockyards; it penalizes him for the poorer stuff without giving him much of a premium for the best. We need systematic grading at the stockyards, but the grades used there should be carried right through to the consumer; that would stimulate a demand for meat of quality. The fact is that the 'Truth-in-Meat' campaign is right in line with the movement toward standardization of all farm products....."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture — An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for January 23 says: "Just at the time when it begins to appear all but certain that Congress will not take any definite steps to reform our system of crop reports, a well informed representative of cotton spinners comes forward with a most admirable analysis of the ineffectiveness and the really injurious nature of the cotton estimates of the Department of Agriculture. If the issue in question were at all likely to be settled upon its real merits, the address

thus delivered before the National Wholesale Dry Goods Association might have an appreciable and distinctly helpful influence. In the event, however, members of the cotton bloc are not apt to be much influenced by the sound and pointed reasoning brought to bear upon the subject by the speaker in question. The truth of the matter is that since leaders of the cotton growing interests have made it plain that they do not desire any change in the reports, as now issued, it is far from likely that any action of any sort will be taken....."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ending January 23: Potatoes dull. Eastern Round Whites $4.25 to $4.85 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern markets; $4.25 f.o.b. Rochester. Maine sacked Green Mountains $4.50 to $4.65 in leading terminals. Apples unsteady. New York Baldwin apples $3.75 to $5 per barrel in distributing centers. Common storage stock $3.50 to $3.65 f.o.b. Rochester. Onions very dull. New York and midwestern yellows $2.50 to $3 in consuming centers. Cabbage sells lower. New York Danish type $50 to $65 in city markets; $48 to $50 f.o.b. Rochester. A few sales of Texas domestic type, new stock, were made at $120 in St. Louis. Florida Wakefield $3.25 to $3.50 per 1 1/2 bushel hamper on Chicago market

A sharp advance in hogs on January 23 forced prices of lightweights 25 to 50¢ higher, with a top of $13.25 on those weighing 160 lbs. up, while odd lots of 140 to 150 lb. selections sold as high as $13.40. Other hogs were mostly strong to 10¢ higher. Bulk of sales at $11.90 to $12.70 were 30¢ to 40¢ higher than a week ago. The cattle market on the contrary closed 25 to 40¢ lower on all except strictly good to choice heavy steers and well conditioned yearlings which are steady compared with a week ago. Extreme top for the week on yearlings was $11.25; medium weights $11.10; heavies $11. An oversupply of low grade steers forced a decline of 50¢ on heavy cows and heifers grading good and better, although common and lower grades and cows and heifers grading good and better, although common and lower grades and cows were strong to 25¢ higher. Vealers were mostly 75¢ to $1.50 lower and stockers and feeders steady to 25¢ lower. The lamb market was nominal at the close. Compared with a week ago fat lambs are 50¢ to $1 lower, bulk to packers showing full decline: Feeding lambs are around 25¢ lower, yearling wethers 25 to 50¢ lower, fat sheep and cull native lambs steady. Bulk of fat lambs brought $14.50 to $15.25, fat ewes $8 to $9, feeding lambs $14.50 to $15.25.

Grain market draggy. Wheat futures slightly easier. Foreign markets lower with increasing movement of Argentine and Australian wheat. United States futures affected by world price fluctuations account possibility of increased Canadian imports. Cash wheat prices barely steady. Corn steady to firm. Colder weather stimulating farm feedings. Commercial stocks increasing. Oats working slightly lower.

Hay market showing weaker undertone. Good hay in best demand and lower grades moving at discounts. Quoted January 23: No.1 timothy - Boston $26; New York $28; Pittsburgh $23; Cincinnati $25; Chicago $24.50; St.Louis $25.50; Memphis $28; Atlanta $29.50. No.1 alfalfa - Omaha $20.50, Memphis $30, Atlanta $33.50. No.1 prairie Omaha $15; Chicago $18; St. Louis $18.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 22 points during the week, closing at 20.19¢ per lb. New York March future contracts declined 24 points, closing at 20.22¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

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